

# The Club Woman

The Official Organ of the General Federation of Women's Club.



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PROPYLEUM, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.  
Dedicated January 27, 1892

## WOMEN'S CLUBHOUSES.

**I**T IS noticeable that wherever there is a woman's clubhouse there is public spirit, yes, and social life and enterprise and flourishing public schools and libraries and other things that go to improve a community. The woman's clubhouse stands for progress wherever it is to be found.

The most elaborate and expensive clubhouse for women is the one nearly completed in Boston. A stock company was formed several years ago and strenuous efforts have been making ever since to raise the \$250,000 necessary to build the structure which must accommodate the many clubs of Boston and vicinity which are to be represented in it and to make use of its halls and lecture rooms. But we shall soon see a completed building on Huntington avenue near the new Symphony, Horticultural and Chickering Halls, just where the tide of musical and artistic life in Boston is now centering and the winter of 1902-1903 will witness the opening of the most extensive and beautiful woman's clubhouse in the world.

In Los Angeles, for instance, there are three clubhouses for women instead of one which is central and common to all. The Ebell clubhouse was the first in California and built by Mrs. Robert J. Burdette, then president of the club. The Ebell, however, outgrew this clubhouse and built another which is probably surpassed by few others.

The Woman's Club House of Los Angeles is built in the picturesque Mission style, the structure is pleasing to the eye, simple in form, dignified in its architecture and peculiarly adapted to the climate of Southern California.

Then there is the Stickney Memorial building, which was built by Mrs. Susan H. Stickney, of Pasadena, for the Shakespeare Club of that city, in memory of a beloved sister. This building drew forth many words of praise from the thousands of visiting club women who were entertained there at the close of the biennial. It is strictly an "Anne Hathaway" affair. There are the raftered ceiling, the historic fire-place, the latticed windows the deep window-sills, the old-fashioned wooden settles and the rustic easychairs. But there are modern treasures in Memorial Hall in the way of statues, pictures and books, and there are all

sorts of improvements unknown to Mrs. William Shakespeare.

The first clubhouse for women was built at Grand Rapids, Mich., the cornerstone being laid July 31, 1887, and the house itself dedicated the following December. Indianapolis was second with the Propyleum, which was built by their woman's club in 1888. The New Century Club of Pennsylvania followed with a beautiful building, dedicated January, 1892. Previous to this, however, the Woman's Club of Wisconsin had built the beautiful Atheraum, which is such an ornament to the best part of the city of Milwaukee. Buffalo has a fine house for the Women's Educational and Industrial Union. Boston, too, has a fine house, opposite the Public Garden, owned and managed by the "E. and I.," from which the Buffalo Union is an outgrowth. Massachusetts has two other clubhouses, one in Dorchester, the achievement of the Woman's Club of that place, and one built by the November Club of Andover, and one of the first in the country. The Worcester Club is building also, and other towns will soon follow suit.

The Woman's Clubhouse of Peoria, Ill., has been much admired for its ideal auditorium, with a seating capacity of five hundred. There are various committee rooms, a library, dining room and kitchen, maintained in a business-like way by the club women.

In Indianapolis the Propyleum is one of the most beautiful buildings of the city. The leading spirit in its erection and establishment was Mrs. May Wright Sewall. It affords handsome and convenient accommodations for all kinds of club meetings, receptions, dinners, lectures, in short, all kinds of gatherings for which private houses are too small and public halls too large. In Baltimore the Arundell Club maintains a handsome clubhouse with a fine library.

Chicago has no clubhouse owned by women, the great Woman's Club being beautifully and spaciouly located in the Fine Arts Building. Denver women are building a fine clubhouse and so are Minneapolis and Cincinnati club-folk. Decatur and Elgin, Ill., Wayne and Bradford, Pa., and Wilmington, Del., have ample clubhouses of which their club women are justly proud. Lansing, Mich., has a \$6000 clubhouse, and Muskegon women are now struggling with the problem of building one which shall be a model for the country town.



ARUNDELL CLUB HOUSE, BALTIMORE, MD.



In Philadelphia the New Century Clubhouse is one of the famous buildings and is too well known to need description—a truth which may be repeated with reference to the Athenæum of Milwaukee, since biennials have been held in both places. Philadelphia has another clubhouse, however, which, like the "Mayflower" of Boston, is confined to the more exclusive women who love to have a clubhouse managed more like the man's clubhouse.

The Acorn Clubhouse is remarkably complete in detail. The beautiful music and ballroom is in frequent demand for exclusive social entertainments. Monday is club day, and afternoon tea is served at 4 o'clock. There is an excellent reading room, and the cuisine of the club has a high reputation. In fact, the woman who visits Philadelphia may well consider herself exceptionally favored if she is invited into the sacred precincts of the Acorn Clubhouse.

## THE CLUB WOMAN AND HER TOAST.

By Laura A. Smith in  
"What To Eat."



APRIL, or early May, sees the club woman preparing for President's Day, that happy finale to the club season, when the retiring president hands over the gavel to the in-coming president, and members meet in happy converse at a luncheon or breakfast. These occasions are most delightful, for there is the assembly of pretty, clever women, the tables shining with glass and silver, decorated with the club flower. The name cards are decorated with the club flower and monogram, and unless it is a sunlight affair, the candle shades match the flower in color.

Such an occasion should be an inspiration to the club woman who is down for a toast. Yet, strange to say, from the moment she is notified by a nice little note from the committee on entertainment, that she has been selected to speak for ten minutes on any simple subject, she suffers from serious stage-fright. She finds herself growing weak and wobbly, pale and pre-occupied, and finds she can neither eat nor sleep as the day approaches.

In an ordinary every day club meeting she would not suffer a whit from nervousness. She would sit at ease listening to the bright sayings of other club members, and things equally clever would flash into her mind to say under the inspiration of the moment. It is the fact that she is expected to present something prepared beforehand on a gala occasion that fills her soul with terror. Leaving things to the inspiration of the moment is out of the question. She goes about pale and distraught, poring over books for suitable quotations (who ever knew a literary club woman who didn't quote on all occasions?), taking her family and friends into consultation and making her entire circle feel that her toast is the one really important event in American history.

It seems hopeless to advise a club woman down for a toast, tradition is so strong; yet her toast need not be such a dread if she thinks the matter over calmly and goes about it reasonably.

"What always helps me," said one club woman, "is that I know every woman present is really thinking more of her own toast than what I am saying. Then when I begin to get frightened, I think of each club member individually, and I find that personally I am not awed by any of them."

The nervous woman is advised not to write her toast, if write she must, until the last moment. In the week she has for preparation let her turn the subject over in her mind when she is alone and undisturbed by outside matters. One hour of quiet pondering is worth a whole day of anxious fluttering about, trying to hit on some grand thought which shall astonish her friends. Let her decide on the central idea of the toast, present that simply and clearly, embellish it with a bit of humor and kindness towards other club members, and the thing is done.

The toasts on President's Day generally run along the same line—"Our President," "Our New Officers," "The Outgoing Administration," "The New Member," "The Most Helpful Program,"

"Our Absent Members," "Our Guests," "Summer Plans," "Vacation Time," etc. With these stereotyped subjects it is an easy matter to say a few bright, original words, but let them be original. Remember that all club members read the same books you do and have probably memorized the same quotations. Let the few words you say be stamped with your own originality. One bright woman made a hit at a club breakfast by first describing the different kinds of toast made from bread, the care needed in preparing it and then cleverly applied the same treatment to the club toast. Another simply took her audience into her confidence and told her sufferings in trying to compose her toast, clean house and have a dressmaker at the same time. As everyone present had undergone the same sensations she was heartily applauded.

A few minor directions to the woman with a toast to give may not come amiss:

Dress your best for the club breakfast. A becoming hat, a bit of real lace, a perfectly fitting gown, will do much towards making your toast a success, for the pleasing picture which dwells in the mind often causes one's

audience to forget the spoken words.

After your toast is written (if you feel you must write it), shut yourself up and commit it to memory. Then write the leading points on a tiny card which you can easily hold in the palm of your hand and refresh your memory therefrom.

If you are unpracticed in the art of speaking before an audience, hie yourself to a dramatic instructor or to some kind friend (members of one's family will not do; their frank criticisms have a discouraging tendency) and learn to enunciate distinctly, to hold your head erect and look at your audience; to speak in a conversational tone, avoiding either a high-pitched, nervous shriek or a frightened whisper.

Select some person farthest away from your place and determine that you will make her hear every word.

Speak deliberately and give your audience plenty of time to catch the full force of your remarks. The more nervous you feel, the more slowly and clearly should you speak to deceive your friends.



NEW CENTURY CLUB-HOUSE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Above all things, do not fidget. Do not work your fingers, play with chain or fan or any article on the table; and do not hold your chair or lean against the back as if your life depended on it. Study your most graceful pose before your home mirror; and keep that pose while you are talking.

When release comes and you are through, do not sink into your chair with a deep sigh of relief, excitedly fan your flushed face, and grab a drink of water. Stand quietly and easily for a full minute, smilingly bow your acknowledgment of the applause, then sit down calmly and gracefully and forget your own toast in those that follow. Thereby all will envy you.

In beginning your toast say: "Madame President and ladies."

### TEA TABLE TALKS.

*Mrs. Helen B. Schoonhoven, President Urban Club, Brooklyn, N. Y.*



PLEASANT digression from the ordinary routine of club programs has been made by the Urban Club of Brooklyn in a series of "Tea Table Talks." Feeling the weariness that comes at this time of year with writing, reading and listening to formal papers,

a road of escape was found in the happy thought of the senior director, Mrs. Andrew J. Perry, to hold a sort of salon and to revive the almost lost art of conversation upon serious and vital subjects. The plan was as follows:

Current topics had been chosen by the Urban Club as the general subject for the year's work in political study. Hence three subjects of live and compelling interest were chosen as the topics for an open and informal discussion. Three tables were daintily spread with tea service, refreshments of the lightest sort and harmonious decorations. A placard announcing the topic under consideration was placed conspicuously in the center of each table. First came "The Open Saloon;" second, "Individual Rights, Every Man's House His Castle;" third, "Some Phases of Modern Religious Thought." A leader was at each table, and questions, answers and remarks passed freely from table to table as long as the discussion on a given subject lasted. Twenty minutes, a time all too short as it proved, was allowed each table to handle its subject. Occasional use of the gavel was necessary to keep the talk within bounds so that nothing good should be lost, and many bright, witty and helpful things were said. After the more formal conversation was declared at an end tea was served. The long shadows of the early evening came, and candles and gas were needed before the members reluctantly turned from their exchange of thoughts and experiences.

At this meeting three things were accomplished: First, many members who had shrunk from speaking upon more formal occasions, who had refused to write papers, here spoke freely, and in several cases with power. Secondly, there was a development of the breadth of spirit which comes only from listening with patient and open soul to views opposite to your own and the self-control to argue without malice or personal feeling. Lastly, the power to talk well, by no means the least of woman's graces, was fostered and strengthened by this symposium.



NEW CENTURY CLUB, WILMINGTON, DEL.

POTPOURRI OF NATIONS: Out of this somewhat simple beginning grew a more elaborate development of the same idea called "Potpourri of Nations." At this meeting seven tables were laid, each in the colors, decorations, china and viands of one of the great nations of the world. In a cosy corner, arranged for the occasion, the oriental table was laid, a striking and effective contrast to the bright red, white and blue coloring of the American table occupying the center of the room. At each table the news of the nation represented was given briefly and wittily. The refreshments were necessarily various and formed a unique feature. The Russians served caviare sandwiches and thin hard candy. The Italians had raisins, dates, olives and grape juice. Great Britain's table had Scotch kisses, English acorns and waffles. The Germans had beer and coffee cake. The Oriental table served preserved ginger and fig paste. The Americans had cider, raised biscuits, sandwiches and phillipines. This meeting might be characterized as more ingenious and spectacular than the former, but it was found an interesting and effective way of learning the news and characteristics of many nations.

The one thing urged against these meetings is that the subjects brought up are treated superficially. There are two things to be said in answer to this charge. First, an afternoon's consideration of any subject, no matter how it is approached, is necessarily

superficial and does little more than stimulate thought. In these tea table talks this is accomplished in almost as effective a way as by means of a formal address. In the second place, since most of woman's power must come through her ability to talk upon serious questions of the day and to talk well and to some purpose, the power of quick, clear, logical expression of thought in words is of vast importance. Hence these talks, in so far as they serve this purpose, seem to me to be of great value to club women. Though not to be recommended for all club meetings, or even to be used too frequently, I believe they may serve not only the end of entertain

ment but also the object and aim of all club workers, namely woman's larger helpfulness to the community.

### HOME AMUSEMENTS.

*Lizzie M. Holmes, Denver, Colo.*



HERE was once a time when the discussion of such a subject would have been well-nigh impossible. In the days of our Puritan forefathers, and in the land they had chosen, amusement was the last thing to be considered. To yield to the innate longing for it in the least was rather a weakness than a virtue. Some excuse for this austere view of life may have existed in those days when every exertion and every moment of time were needed to preserve life and secure the comforts necessary to build up a sturdy, upright race of people and homes to put them in. But a custom so soon grows into an institution. Even our grandfathers and grandmothers, who had some leisure for the cultivation of the finer attributes, could not believe that people would discuss the question of home amusements seriously. Frivolous occupations supplied no real lack, they believed; the longing for light entertainment was but a prompting of the evil one. Very young children might play quietly



on week days at shuttlecock and battledore, or ball, or with dolls and playhouses. But at the age of ten or twelve most of the sons and daughters were given some regular occupation for each hour of the day, with a stated time for taking a walk or a ride and a regular time for such light reading as the "Edgeworth Tales" and "Swiss Family Robinson." This comprised the usual amount of "amusement."

Sundays were gloomy days to be dreaded by each member of the family. A long doctrinal sermon in the morning, a dreary class meeting, a cold, solemn dinner, followed by a doleful afternoon, was the general program. The older people were often driven to seek relief in sleep, the young ones sat on hard chairs in rows, with Bibles or some unreadable religious work spread out before them, nodding and yawning, until they fell from their seats from weariness. Games of cards were inventions of the evil one, and dancing, except among a few families whose children were taught the stately minuet and other slow and graceful steps for the improvement of their manners. Life was for use and the service of God, not for personal happiness.

But with the enlightenment of a progressive age has come the knowledge that God and humanity may be better served if we develop and round out every side of our natures. We are none the less true and noble for being happy; we are none the less able workers if we learn how to rest and recreate in the best possible manner. We know now that we need amusement as well as work and study. That if we take time to rest and recruit from the more serious duties of life we will accomplish more and better work when we set about it. It is wise to "make haste slowly."

In most of our city homes today will be found no lack of means for amusement; there will be games of all kinds, musical instruments, books, pictures, toys, magazines and papers. Out of doors, in winter, there are skating ponds, sometimes sleighing, modern rapid transit of various kinds, picture galleries, concerts, lectures and theaters at reasonable prices. All who command even a small income may enjoy some of these things. In the summer it is better yet, since there are so many cheap ways of getting about and so many pleasant places of resort, and besides there is the ubiquitous bicycle. It would seem that the present generations of people need be at no loss for constant entertainment. And yet occasionally time hangs heavily on our fastidious hands. In the best of homes ennui sometimes broods over our hearthstones, and we mothers, wives and sisters often wonder if we are at fault. We ask ourselves if we are to blame that the men and children of the household evince desires to go away from home and seek enjoyments elsewhere. We pile new music on the rack, and the center table with new books and magazines, bring out the chessboard and the whist table and wonder that our husbands and big brothers still at times yawn and consider the evening dull. We fill our nurseries with toys, games and picture books, and marvel to see the children push them aside and long for forbidden or unknown amusements. With all that the science and skill of two thousand years of progress have lain at our feet, with all that bright intellects have taught us, with all that past experiences have suggested, we are still compelled to ask the question, "What shall we do for home amusements?"

But it is, in one sense, a hopeful sign that we ask it at all. Even now there are out of the way hamlets and lonely farmhouses where such a question is never so much as suggested. In these houses—for often they can scarcely be called homes—there will be found nothing that tends to amuse. The inmates think the end of a long, hard task and an opportunity to rest and do nothing for a brief spell, their greatest pleasure; their rooms contain an almanac, a Bible, the county paper, an old engraving of Lincoln or Grant, an obituary picture, and a bunch of dried flowers by way of ornament and mental recreation. They have been long accustomed to believe that work is the end and aim of life, and to indulge in mere amusement is to yield to a weakness if not even a vice. The old-fashioned apple paring and husking bees have gone out of date and little else has come to take their place; the most aspiring have not yet found the right kind of pleasing occupation; the coarser sort, for want of encouraging, drift into the village saloons. What wonder the sons and daughters look toward the city with longing eyes, and that they flutter away with the first wavering opening of their cage door? It is bad enough when there are no means of other occupation than toil, but worse when there is no desire for, no faith in, the elevating influence of rational and moderate amusement.

But we will consider the subject from the standpoint of those who possess the desire and believe in the usefulness of proper home amusements, and who have the means for obtaining in a reasonable degree the accessories. Why is it that even yet we often find ourselves making failures of our best efforts?

There may be many reasons. In the first place, perhaps we overdo the matter. Every one is happier and stronger for making some useful, physical exertion each day of his life. A surfeit is as bad as a famine in either work or play. Even children should have some little daily task assigned them aside from their usual studies. We all enter into the hour for enjoyment with greater zest for tasks well done and lessons well learned. Another reason is that we learn to look outside for means of amusement too much; we remain passive and face the world with the tacit demand "Now amuse me." If something so new and striking as to carry us outside of

ourselves whether we will or not, is not offered us, we pronounce it a bore and refuse to be pleased. We allow our faculties for happiness to grow dormant and we will not be amused unless it be in spite of ourselves. Another is that we will not unbend. Our dignity is of more consequence than happiness, and we must be conventional even about our fun. We should allow our natures to expand, to bubble up spontaneously, to forgo "rules for laughter" if we would be joyous.

For the quality and quantity of home amusements do not matter so much as the spirit we can bring to the enjoyment of them. It is not so much my purpose to point out new games, new toys, new recreations—many home magazines and papers do this—as to suggest how a reasonable pleasure in those we already have may be enjoyed. One great secret of the success of any planned amusement, is the sociability involved. None but a misanthrope would care to seek amusement alone. While there is a certain sort of sad happiness in solitude, we cannot really call it enjoyment. The single child in a family is a forlorn little being if he is not a



small tyrant. Human beings naturally reach out toward each other with an instinctive longing. The isolated child, as well as the grown one, tires of all his toys and little belongings if no one ever shares his feelings about them or suggests new points of interest. Even a group of little children will tire of playthings which no older person ever enjoys with them. They enter with enthusiastic delight into a game with those who will put them on their mettle. They will love to gaze at pictures if older people will gaze with them and talk them over. Riding, boating, ball playing in parties of old and young where the emulation is a little keen, are very enjoyable. Kind attention, animated, interested, happy words will render the oldest game a great delight to children. All this necessitates more personal supervision than most grown people have time and inclination to give; yet if more of this sympathetic interest in the doings of the little ones could be afforded by some of the older members of the family, even if other things were somewhat neglected, the reward would come in the greater content and better health of the children—for health always waits on happiness—the lessening of the many little annoyances which restless, unsatisfied small folk make.

This lack of time and energy on the part of mothers and fathers in isolated homes to accompany their children in their amusements, affords a good argument for the large co-operative homes which are day-dreams in the heads of a great many good people. In such homes the children could spend much of their time in plays directed and incited by some competent person whose business it would be to attend to them. There would be nothing in this plan to prevent parents from loving and being with their children as much as they liked, and there would be no danger of their being alienated. Such attendance would be only for the time which could not be given from out the busy lives of parents. This is a question which is bound to come up for discussion more and more in the near future.

The principle is true of the older members of the family. Let one enter a room to sing or play, and it is work—practice. When he sings or plays with others or to others, it is pleasure. Calisthenics or dancing by one's self seems foolish and silly; the same exercises in company with others inspires a happy social feeling and are among the best methods of refreshing amusements. What ever interests all in the room is most enjoyable to every one. It is the fraternal, friendly, social feeling which is aroused, that goes to make up what every one calls a "good time."

After all, it is what one brings to anything which determines what he will get out of it. One must cultivate in herself the spirit that finds pleasure in everything that comes in her way, and it will be an easy matter to inspire young, fresh, eager children with the spirit of happiness. Nature has given us so much to enjoy; every day with its new coloring, its weather changes, its development of all living things, brings with it its deep sources of delight. It is all so beautiful. If we do not see the beauty of life wherever we go, we have not yet discovered our true selves—we must search for them. To be a fountain of happiness within ourselves is to inspire a whole houseful of morbid people with a keen sense of enjoyment and no one is without this wonderful power if he will only seek for it and cultivate it. Nothing in life is so much worth the trouble as the possession of the power to make every one happy with whom one comes in contact.

We should all try to be at our best in the home circle. To mope and brood dully at home only to flash out brilliantly once in a while in general society, is to rob our own, also ourselves. We should cultivate the habit of talking cheerfully and spontaneously in our own home circles; even study to find pleasant, sparkling things to say. We will be better appreciated at home than outside, and the habit will grow on us. The social, genial feeling which one can bring to the simplest form of home amusement is what makes it keenly and truly enjoyment. One cannot make this

feeling at will, it may be claimed. That remains to be seen. The very effort made to seem cheerful to others, arouses the spirits, sets the blood to circulating more freely, until the first one knows he is laughing as heartily and spontaneously as the others. After all, the old yet ever new commandment, "Love one another," is the underlying principle, the foundation of all true happiness, all real human enjoyment.

## IN BUSINESS SESSION.

Kate A. Aplington, Council Grove, Kan.



DO NOT think that your club can transact business without diversity of opinion.

Do not be ashamed of this, thinking it is a feature peculiar to women's clubs.

Men in their organizations differ widely and vigorously. They have been shoved out into the world early, and have learned to take its hard knocks.

But woman is treading a new and untried path, beset with pitfalls. If she stumbles, as she is sure to do, she is bound to feel the prick of the thorns that line the way of the world.

Unless she lives a pampered, baby life closely within the walls of her home (and some women do live such lives, expecting as much attention and consideration for themselves and giving as little attention or consideration to others as if they were indeed babies just out of their long clothes), unless she lives such a life as this she is bound to feel the prick of the thorns.

But these thorns are not daggers. Their wounds are surface wounds and do not kill. They may rankle for a short time, but if the wound does not soon heal, or if death ensues, it is because the body receiving it is morbidly unhealthy and the seeds of dissolution are already present in the blood. A vigorous, healthy life will cause such wounds to heal without a scar.

Man in general bears these pricks with equanimity or without grimaces; so must woman learn to do. Let her take the advice she gives her boy. "Never mind! there, bear it like a little man."

To receive these wounds, and receiving to ignore them, is the price that she must pay for trying to be something, to do something to help herself and others.

It is the price she pays that she may live a strong, real life. Therefore do not be afraid of discussion and opposition. It is rather good for us than otherwise. It broadens us and shows us the other side, and no truth can be truly apprehended till you have seen two at least of its several different faces.

When the debate is on it is your duty to courageously defend what to you seems right. Yet do not forget that abstract right is what no one can be absolutely sure of, so temper the rigor of your views with a modicum of policy, speak with courtesy, do not impute selfish, unworthy motives to those who differ from you, and finally when the debate is over yield to the expressed will of the majority without bitterness.

Suppose the majority should be wrong and the minority right, as sometimes happens. When your arguments have failed to convince the majority, the last and irrefutable argument is the actual operation of the unwise law. If it is unwise it will soon prove itself so, with a proof that no one may gainsay. Then the majority will come over to your side and opportunity will be given to modify the law, or change it altogether. This is the day of the triumph of your principles. A day postponed, not lost.

Have you noticed a tenseness and strenuousness in the atmosphere? asks the Chicago "Journal." The club women are coming home and are getting ready to do business along old and new lines. Every mail brings with it one or more club year books, dignified or frivolously dainty as to binding, but teeming with suggestions of learning within.



## THE MEN.

[The writer of these verses was a visitor this winter at the annual banquet of the chief club for men in this district. After a dinner of many courses she listened for hours to the discussion of the topic, "Is Society an Organism or an Organization?" The experience inspired her to drop into these rhymes.]

BY ANNIE L. MILLER.

They say that women's clubs are deep  
Beyond all comprehension,  
That women take a mental leap,  
With brains at a loose tension,  
Right straight at knowledge's very heart  
And scatter it to flinders,  
Then coolly land without a smart  
Surrounded by truth's cinders—  
But then—  
Did you ever hear the men?

They say that women almost sink  
Beneath the weight of learning  
When their clubs meet; they only think  
They'll try to be discerning,  
But flounder wildly in the mass  
Of facts on all known matters,  
And though from chaos they may pass  
They leave the theme in tatters—  
But then—  
What of the men?

They say that women lose their head  
When meeting opposition.  
With voices high and faces red  
They seem bent on perdition.  
They glare about with angry scowls  
When silenced for the minute,  
Then argue wild in shrillest howls  
When told that they're not "in it"—  
But then—  
So do the men.

L'Envoi—

To find the darkest, hidden deeps  
Of topsy-turvy learning,  
Opacous thoughts with sudden leaps  
Towards questions new and burning,  
Or views on themes so very wise  
And cautiously related  
That one cannot to save his eyes  
Say what the club has stated—  
Go hear the men.

All is not gloom and arduous toil in an office to which comes such a letter as the following, which was received by the editor a few weeks ago, dated from Washington, D. C. As it contains a message for other club women we pass it on—un-edited:

"I hope That yow not Get Mad or Think me Impurtant in addressing yow, And your Club. For My Bounty Land clam & Home, has Taken The Eye of This Government, And as woman Hasto be in it, Wether She Wants to herself or does not, I concluded I just drop you afue lines And get acquainted at least, when They cant, Handel a Gentilman with whiskey & Rum Preachers & Devels. That no, Love always fall Back on Woman, & Through Mud at her, This was The Case with The only Book That has no date or at least The Fother Proff" Forght to fix a commencement, all to suit Themselves, so when They want to do a Mean act They Throw Their Mud & Slyme, at Eve. And as I am one of Thoes fellows, That reads Between The lines I Thought I would Lik to see your Paper, & hear what the Clubs wer doing, as I am here, for afue days in Washington on Bussness & as we, Pass down The stream of time all Humanity likes verity and That well Spiced, in life. Respectfully & Kindly to one and all of The Clubs."

We withhold the signature for obvious reasons.

## THE EVOLUTION OF HELEN MIDDLETON.

Mrs. Hattie M. Dutro, Longmont, Colo.



ELEN MIDDLETON was engaged in washing the dinner dishes when they called. "They" were the president and the secretary of the Tuesday Afternoon Club.

Up to that time she had been a devoted house-keeper, a practical woman, and a wife of undivided loyalty.

They had come for the purpose of asking her to join the Woman's Tuesday Afternoon Club.

"You would be such a help to us," the president said. "We have so few really working members. You would enjoy the work of the club, I know; and now there is a vacancy. You see," she exclaimed, "our club is limited; our houses are so small you know." She laughed. She was small, animated and dark-eyed; and she made the best of everything, and she had a good time in spite of reverses.

"Nonsense!" she exclaimed in reply to Helen's plea of "so much work" and "so little time," "just your husband and yourself—and four nice rooms; here I've five children and only two rooms! That is really no excuse at all."

But Helen would not promise; she would see, she said.

She returned thoughtfully to her work. She felt flattered; it was not every one that was asked to join the Tuesday Afternoon Club. Not that she intended to join; she was busy and happy at home, she wanted no outside interests, her life was complete. She laughed happily as she glanced about the cosy rooms of the little log house. The furniture was tasteful and comfortable, the broad window seats were filled with bright blossomed flowers, and a canary chirped cheerfully in its cage. On every side were the evidences of the neat pains-taking housekeeper that she was; but the sweetest and fairest thing there was herself. The soft dark hair waved away from a charming young face, and the eyes that looked out from the face were very brown and sweet and serious. If her life lacked anything needed to make it complete, she had not known it, and "Where ignorance is bliss—" but stay! Was there not a vague dissatisfaction at times—an emptiness of mind that her work failed to reach? Besides was she not often mortified by her lack of a knowledge and an understanding of the important topics of the day? The club might supply this lack. She moved restlessly to the window. The tall mountain opposite frowned back at her. On all sides massive mountains shut in the little town, and their steep and rocky sides showed many mines in various stages of development. Above the pine-clad mountains, rose the snowy peaks of the great Divide—lofty, solemn, and sublime. The one crooked street of the town followed the creek, and from it the rough log houses were scattered far upon the hillside.

For, over two years this town, 8600 feet above the sea level, with less than a thousand souls, had been her home, and she had renounced a home of wealth to come to it with the husband of her choice; and she had not regretted it.

She turned impatiently from the fancy work which usually occupied her spare time. After all, perhaps she might join the club; she was certainly getting "rusty." She had graduated from an excellent school, still she had never been studious; she was not educationally inclined, she thought.

That night she talked the matter over with her husband—womanlike, she had already decided, and she wanted some one to advise her, and if the advice did not suit, well—

"Why, of course," he said cordially, "I would join it, it will be a recreation for you. I know you must be lonesome, with my being away at the store so much."

"I am very happy as I am, Edward," she said. "I am always so busy that I don't get lonely—at least not often," she amended hastily.

"It is a very brave little girl," he said tenderly, "but she cannot hide from me the fact that she misses her old home at times."

So that is the way that she came to join the Tuesday Afternoon Club.

From that time there was a change in Helen Middleton. It was vague, imperceptible at first, still it was there, and it grew.

As it frequently happens in these small mining camps, where there is such a strange admixture of all classes, the members of this club were women of exceptional brightness and some of them were talented to a degree. It is true they were not close students of Roberts's Rules of Order, still, as the president said, "Rome was not built in a day." And here Helen Middleton began her career as a club woman.

The early fall came radiant. The verdure of the mountain sides turned yellow, with here and there a dash of red, among the evergreens; and the sky took on a deeper blue, then the wind scattered the leaves, and everything looked cheerless. Stripped of its brilliant coloring, the grandeur of the scenery became depressing.

It was not long before Edward Middleton began to notice the change in his wife.

The pleasant companionship that had so long been theirs was broken. Poring over some book, or with writing material before her, she would exclaim impatiently whenever he came to her side and began talking. "Oh, go away, and don't disturb me, please!" or if he had a few hours that he could spare at home with her, the committee for the library was going to meet—she was on the program committee—or some other committee—for working members that can be relied upon are so few in these camps, where there is a constant coming and going, that new members are immediately pressed into service, and she, proving willing and able—and flattered, too—had proved no exception to this rule. She had a good brain, she was an excellent reader and a fair musician. She had soon passed that embryotic stage of club life, "What can the club do for me?" Indeed, she wondered what the club could do without her.

As her mind awakened, and her intellectual faculties quickened, a new world seemed opening up before her. She hardly knew when she first conceived the idea of writing a story, but before the thought had taken the shape of purpose, she had begun it. She worked patiently on it for days. But her mind was unable to overcome the neglect of years; the words which she so eagerly sought to clothe her ideas were elusive of her mental grasp. Those shadowy unclothed thoughts, flitting persistently through her brain, unsettled her; and her home gave its mute testimony of the inattention of its once careful mistress.

Winter now settled down on the little town. Many of the people had left for the pleasant and sunny valleys below, among them a number of the club members. Still the few that were left kept the club work moving on. Incredible as it may seem that brave little band met at the homes of the various members all winter, rarely missing a week. That was a long winter of continuous storms; the snow kept falling, only to be caught up by the angry winds and whirled away into great drifts; yet delicate women braved those winter storms and they walked in the clutches of the gale, for no convenient street cars waited but a few steps from their homes to conduct them to their destination.

Amidst those common trials and hardships these women grew very near to one another. Then there came a difference. Their world was narrow in spite of the books, magazines and daily

papers that found their way to their doors, and the coming of the daily stage—their only connection with the outer world—was the one event of those long days. So discord once admitted among them remained and thrived.

Helen Middleton had made the mistake, that women sometimes do make, of putting the work of the club before that of the home. The disagreements, slight at first, which had arisen between herself and her husband over the relative duties of home and club, had finally culminated in a bitter quarrel. The coldness thus engendered grew. She was growing away from him—beyond him, she thought, and when a wife allows that thought to take possession of her, there is an end to her domestic peace and happiness.

Then there was the bitter feeling prevailing at the club, which found its outlet not in bickering but rather in cold and averted looks and sneering insinuations. Yet these women had once worked together in perfect unison for the best interests of the club, and they had worked hard, having established and maintained a library and a reading room—influences much needed where there are idle men and boys, long, dull hours and open saloons.

For two weeks now Helen had not attended the club meetings. It would hardly be able to continue without her, she thought, with a complacency that was not unmixed with spite. But alas for human vanity! As she watched the various members struggling home through the wind and snow she realized that the club was moving on; it had not collapsed. She remembered, too, with a sense of mortification, that it had existed before she had become one of its members. After all she was but a bubble on the wave of a great cause and her absence made scarcely a ripple on the wave; it would roll on without her and when this club was no more. But her humiliation was not complete, it seemed. Several weeks before this she had sent away her story to one of the leading magazines, deeming it worthy of nothing less; and now this afternoon, like the proverbial bad penny, it came back to her. She read the printed slip that accompanied it: "Not without literary merit but unavailable," etc.

Few and favored indeed are the writers who have not felt the sting of those printed and politely worded rejections. They are so calm, so impartial, and inexorable, too. Like posters they are for one and for all. She looked the manuscript over, and then, with the printed rejection, dropped it into the fire, watching them burn with a sort of fascination. She suffered with the exaggerated misery of the young and inexperienced. She had sold her happiness for a chimera. Now what had she in exchange for it? Nothing but a heap of ashes. Her home was ruined and her own incompetency proven. All thoughts of earthly glory receded—all, all was vanity, and she—she was less than nothing. Life was ended for her.

When Edward Middleton sought his home that night he found his supper ready, a cheerful fire burning in the grate and the house spotless, in its old-time order. But the woman who awaited him was not the Helen of old nor yet the Helen of later days. Another chapter in her life was closed.

Day after day slipped past and Helen Middleton pursued the even tenor of her self-appointed way. She returned to her club, she attended carefully—but never cheerfully—to her home duties. A lack of interest in everything had succeeded her feverish energy of mind. She was nothing, and she yielded everything—in a way. But she was learning.

Spring, late in coming, touched the somber mountain sides with its pale green coloring and the absent ones began to return.

(Continued on page 63)



## OPEN PARLIAMENT.

*Mrs. Emma A. Fox.*

(Questions for this department should be sent to 21 Bagley avenue, Detroit Mich.)



THE last meeting of our club last year an amendment was offered to the by-laws, and the motion was carried unanimously. Neither our constitution or by-laws specify how by-laws shall be amended. The question now arises as to whether the amendment was legal, or whether it should have been presented at one meeting and voted upon at the following one. If not legal what steps must be taken to undo the work? The amendment which was adopted was to increase the fine of those who failed to perform literary work. Enclosed please find constitution and by-laws.

It is a common custom to require a two-thirds vote for an amendment to constitution or by-laws, and also previous notice, especially in the case of amending the constitution, but as you have not made any provision for the manner in which by-laws should be amended you have authority to amend at any meeting, and cannot insist that a two-thirds vote is necessary. If your action was not legal it counts for nothing and is as if it had never been done. As you have made no provision for collecting a fine, and no penalty for the non-payment, it would be difficult and perhaps impossible to enforce your by-law imposing a fine.

Is it the prerogative of the presiding officer to appoint credential and resolution committees?

The presiding officer has no power to appoint any committees without authorization by the assembly. Such authority may be given by by-law or by a resolution.

The resignation of our president has been presented and accepted. Does the vice-president become president for the unexpired term, or must there be an election?

Parliamentary law does not decree whether in such a case as you cite the vice-president becomes president for the unexpired term or not. Each club may determine this question for itself. The vice-president acts temporarily, and at the first regular meeting of the club would naturally give an opportunity for the club to elect a president. If she does not mention the subject, any member desiring that a president be elected may, under the head of miscellaneous business, move that the club proceed to elect a president.

Our constitution provides that a nominating committee shall present names for all the offices. Is it true that nominations from the floor are customary and correct after the nominating committee has presented a report? If that is the case what is the use of having a nominating committee?

Nominations from the floor are in order even though a nominating committee has presented a report unless a rule has been adopted prohibiting such nominations. The report of the nominating committee, doubtless, has the effect of concentrating the vote, but if nominations from the floor were not allowed, members might well ask the question, "What is the use of electing by ballot as the nominating committee has decided who the officers shall be?"

May an honorary president be elected to the office of president?

The fact that a member is honorary president does not disqualify her for office.

Does it make any difference whether a mover accepts an amendment?

The only difference it makes whether a mover accepts an

amendment or not, is that the acceptance obviates the necessity of voting on the proposed amendment.

When a motion has been tabled can it be taken from the table at any meeting during that year?

A motion which has been tabled may be taken from the table at the same or any subsequent meeting. It need not be limited even to the year, though it is not likely that a motion would ever be taken from the table unless within the year.

If a state vice regent takes the place of an absent state regent on the national board of management according to Section 1, Article VI., of the constitution of the D. A. R., does she not therefore take her place on any and all committees appointed by the board or its president to which her state regent has been assigned? In other words, perform all the duties of the state regent?

A state vice regent does not necessarily take the place of state regent except to the extent of the duties which belong to the state regent by virtue of her office. The state regent by virtue of her office is a member of the national board of management but is not by virtue of her office a member of any committee. If the regent on account of a by-law or a standing rule held a place on any committee, the vice regent should take her place, but not otherwise.

If a vice state regent becomes acting state regent and thereby a national officer, is she debarred from holding office in her chapter?

The vice regent might temporarily fill the office of regent without resigning the office in her chapter, but if the disability of the regent were permanent she should resign.

Our club has two honorary vice-presidents. Should they be considered honorary members and be exempt from dues or may they retain active membership?

There is no reason why the office of honorary vice-president might not be held by an active member of the club. The standing of honorary members should be clearly defined in the by-laws and then a person who accepts honorary membership will know whether he is to pay dues or not. It is a common custom to confer honorary membership upon non-resident persons only, but each club is competent to make such regulations regarding honorary membership or honorary office as it sees fit.

Our constitution can only be amended at the annual meeting, written notice having been given at a preceding meeting. At the last annual meeting the constitution was amended and now the question arises whether that vote can be reconsidered at the following meeting.

The amendment went into effect at once and thus became a part of the constitution and therefore could not be again amended except at an annual meeting and with the requisite previous notice. The vote could have been reconsidered at the same meeting or an adjournment thereof, as that would still have been the annual meeting.

## CLUB STUDY.



ATTENTION is called to the following circular:

The Reciprocity Bureau of the Massachusetts State Federation presents the following preliminary list of courses of study and single papers which thus far the Massachusetts clubs have offered for use in sister clubs.

We call attention first to the excellent programs issued by the former "Library Committee on Home Talent Days." The subjects included are: The Indians. Prison Reform. Birds. The

Bible as Literature. American History (a year's course of study for nine meetings).

#### COURSES OF STUDY OFFERED BY THE CLUBS.

(The figures in parentheses indicate number of lessons. The asterisk indicates courses originally published in the CLUB WOMAN.)

Art.—Florence (16). Art in Venice (9). French Painters of the Nineteenth Century (8). The Madonna in Art (10).

Domestic Economy.—Appropriateness in Dress (9). Chemistry in Cooking (12). The Model House (10). Woman (12).

Education.—History of Education (9).

Ethics.—Philosophy (12). Historical Survey of Great Ethical Systems (12). Evolution of Society (9). Modern Ethics (12). Modern Ethical Questions (10).

Home.—Child Study (6).

History.—\*American History. \*English History, Parts I. and II. Egypt (10). \*The Fifteenth Century. \*France. \*France of Today. Germany. Holland. Mexico (8). New England (10) with appropriate readings. \*The Nineteenth Century in Europe. \*Our New Possessions. \*Period of the Renaissance and the Reformation. Russia. \*Russia, Modern. Spanish (8). \*Spain. The Making and Developing of the United States. The United States in the Nineteenth Century. The United States During the War of the Rebellion. \*The Victorian Era.

Literature.—A Study of Novels. English Essayists (10). Excursions in Literature (8). Modern Essayists (10). \*Modern Novelists (a group). \*Modern Novel Study. \*Mythology and Folk-lore. Literary Women (8). \*Study of Fiction. \*Study of Literature. \*Questions in Tennyson.

Lives and Works.—\*Robert and Mrs. Browning, \*Dante. \*George Eliot. \*James Russell Lowell, \*Lord Alfred Tennyson, \*Sir Walter Scott.

Music.—Early History of Music (7).

Political Economy.—Great Monarchies (9). Notable Republics (10). Studies in Political Economy (12).

Science.—Forestry. Physiology (9). Study of Science (10). Surface Geology of North America (6).

Social Science.—Evolution of Society (9). Local Work (6).

The Reciprocity Committee, desiring to bring the clubs of the state more closely in touch with one another, suggest that all clubs in making up their programs for next year, set aside one day as "Reciprocity Day," in which a paper shall be furnished by another club through the Reciprocity Bureau.

#### SUBJECTS OF SINGLE PAPERS OFFERED BY THE CLUBS.

Evolution. American Antiquities. The Mound Builders. The American and Zuni Indians. Days and Ways of the Puritans. A Century of American Diplomacy. The Spirit of the Nineteenth Century as developed in the United States. The United States Consular Service. New Experiments in Government. German Socialism. The American Woman of the Nineteenth Century. The Legal Status of Woman. Some Representative Men. Bismarck. John Fiske and Some of his Contemporaries. Tolstoi. George Sand. Harriet Beecher Stowe. Assisi and St. Francis. The Holy Grail. Sculpture. The Madonna in Art. The Child in Literature (prose). What shall Children Read? The Bible in the Home. Sunday Afternoon Occupation for Children. The Value of Music as a Social Improvement. Houses of the Future. Forestry. The Advantages of Women's Clubs and Some of the Safeguards Needed.

In some cases the writer is willing to deliver her paper in person upon payment of traveling expenses. Otherwise the paper will be sent by mail and loaned for one week upon receipt of necessary postage. All communications should be sent to the chairman of the Reciprocity Bureau, Mrs. Helen S. Morse, 12 Haskell street, Allston, Mass.

[The CLUB WOMAN cannot furnish these courses nor supply back numbers.—Ed.]

## UNIVERSITY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT.

### A Correspondence Study Course in Robert Browning.

Conducted by Mrs. Viola Price Franklin.

FIRST LESSON—Subject: The Life of Robert Browning.

REQUIRED READING: Life of Browning in Great Writers' Series, by William Sharp.

Browning: Life and Letters (2 vols.), by Mrs. Sutherland Orr.

Victorian Poets (Browning), by Edmund C. Stedman.

Ward's English Poets (Browning), Vol. IV.

The Letters of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett. Edited by his Son.

Life and Letters of Mrs. Browning (containing a description of Robert Browning), by R. H. Horne.

SUGGESTED READING: Robert Browning, by Edmund C. Stedman. In "Scribner's Monthly," December, 1874.

Robert Browning, by Roden Noel. In Littell's "Living Age," December, 1873.

Our Living Poets, by H. Buxton Forman, 1871.

Personal Recollections of R. Browning, by J. W. Strong. In "The Independent," Vol. 49, p. 1194.

Reminiscences of R. Browning, by F. W. Farrar. In "The Review of Reviews," Vol. 15, p. 353.

OTHER REFERENCES: Browning as a Preacher, by E. D. West. In Littell's "Living Age," December, 1871.

As a Letter Writer. In "Poet Lore," Vol. 8, p. 78.

Some friends of R. Browning, by J. C. Hadden. In "Macmillan," Vol. 77, p. 196.

Joseph Milsand, French friend of R. B. In "Bookman," Vol. 4, p. 23.

Recollections of the Brownings. In "Current Literature," Vol. 21, p. 215.

The Creed of Robert Browning. In "Public Opinion," Vol. 21, p. 771.

Browning in Asola. "The Century," Vol. 59, p. 920.

James Russell Lowell and Robert Browning. The "New Englander," January, 1870.

Italian Note Book—"A London Breakfast" and "A Visit to Casa Guidi," by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Robert Browning and the Larger Public. In "Review of Reviews," Vol. 15, p. 184.

The Letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning (2 vols.). Macmillan, publishers.

#### A. THE LIFE OF ROBERT BROWNING.

##### I. Study the Significant Events in His Life:

a. His early love for music and poetry; educated at London University; travel and study in Italy and the importance of this travel in shaping his life work; cultivates a taste for literature; publication of "Paracelsus" in 1835; his ideal married life; the mutual influence of the two poets upon each other's poetry; fame as a poet; Browning's sorrow at death of his wife; publication of "The Ring and the Book," in 1869; his settlement in London; his death in Italy.

b. The man himself; his appearance, his personality, his domestic relations as a son, brother, husband and father; his religious views.

##### II. Topics Suggested for Exercises or Papers:

Browning's Personality; His Devotion as a Husband; His Relations to His Literary and Artistic Friends; His Independence of Thought; Was Browning a Loyal Englishman, or Was He More of an Italian Than an Englishman; Compare Browning's Life with Tennyson's as to Its Influence on the Issues of the Day; Browning's Chief Traits of Character.



III. Memorize "Home Thoughts from Abroad," and "From the Sea."

IV. Required Work:

1. From the above study of the significant events in his life prepare a brief sketch of Browning's life, writing about four pages of essay paper.

2. Choose any three of the above topics suggested for papers and write about three pages of essay paper upon each subject.

Note: See the reference books and magazine articles for helps in the preparation of papers.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

This department takes special delight in calling attention to the fact that club women are rapidly "coming into their own." A recent proof may be found in the gratifying review of a book in "The American Historical Review." When the work of a club woman receives such approval from a scholar like Professor Jesse Macy, all club women should rejoice. The work consists of lectures given before a woman's club in New York city, and such praise as the following is most gratifying: "Highly meritorious." "Pages packed full of carefully selected information." "The author shows a good deal of ability in seizing upon the salient points of periods and weaving them into a connected narrative." "It holds the interest of the reader." "Abounds in apt quotation." Such commendation, coming as it does through the columns of a magazine known as the highest exponent of scholarly research in the line of American history in the country, should be a great encouragement to club women to "lend a hand" in bringing out other contributions to scholarly work. In this way the stigma that our clubs do only superficial work may be removed. Apropos of the above, I recall a remark President Wheeler, of the University of California, made to me at the last biennial. He said he had been invited by a woman's club in San Francisco to give a talk on Greek literature before its members. After meeting the ladies and ascertaining the nature of their work he had been agreeably surprised at the broad and thorough work that had been accomplished. He had never supposed that club women took such interest in scholarly work and found such delight in deep research. Why should we not? Mature minds ought not to be satisfied with childish performance!

Numerous have been the inquiries for university extension courses since the September issue, and most encouraging letters from all over the country give assurance that the coming year's work is to be one of unusual depth and profit. Such expressions as the following gratify every believer in university extension ideals: "I am very anxious that our work shall be thorough so each member will feel really benefited by the year's study." As is also the news that the woman's club of Lapeer, Mich., has been pursuing a thorough course in Robert Browning for three years, and for the coming year wish to study "Sordello," "Fifine," "La Saisiaz." Exhaustive study of the writings of such a poet is most commendable!

The XXI. Club of Abilene, Tex., was so pleased with its course in "German Literature and Art" that it has ordered a similar one in "Italian Art" for the coming year. The progressive spirit of the worthy secretary, Miss Virginia Hall, who avails herself of every help and suggestion to make the work most beneficial and is satisfied only with the best, is most praiseworthy.

The Women's Club of Cheyenne, Wyo., insists that it can find no courses so helpful and good as the university extension ones, and is following an extensive study in "Faust" this autumn. Their Year Book is "a thing of beauty," and therefore "a joy forever," in the aptness of the inspiring quotations that grace its

pages. Doubtless much of the club's inspiration comes from the enthusiasm of its energetic president, Mrs. E. Mason Smith.

Every wide-awake women's club hopes to furnish a treat to its city the coming season, in giving at least one first-class entertainment. I wish to call attention to the beautiful and artistic program given by Mrs. Charles W. Rhodes in her "Lecture Recital on the Ring of the Nibelung and Parsifal." All who heard her at the biennial will be enthusiastic in praise of the inspiring and artistic entertainment, unsurpassed in its thrilling pictures, music and hallowed influence. Amply rewarded will be any club that can bring such an inspiration to its city. Mrs. Rhodes's advertisement appears elsewhere in the CLUB WOMAN. It is referred to here on account of its highly cultural value.

Then Mrs. Ella Adams Moore's lectures, noticed in the September number, will be most interesting and inspiring. A club woman who has heard Mrs. Moore at State Federations, thus commends her lectures: "I was perfectly charmed with her."

The editor of this department has two illustrated lectures, one on "Rossetti, the Poet and Artist," and the other on "The Arthurian Cycle." These are illustrated with beautiful views, some of which are painted, and with accompanying music make a most delightful entertainment.

When club women can find just as good work by patronizing women as men, why should they not let their loyalty be manifested in so doing? Is it not often the case that when a club has a good lecture in view, it instinctively (?) turns to some man to provide it, notwithstanding the fact that there are many women who have prepared themselves most thoroughly and are most capable in perhaps the same field of work? So mote it not be!

CALIFORNIA.

THE California Outdoor Art League was organized in the Y. M. C. A. building in San Francisco, May, 28, 1902.

It owes its existence to the inspiration of Mrs. Herman J. Hall of Chicago, vice-president of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association and President of the Woman's Auxiliary, with both which organizations the California Outdoor Art League is affiliated.

The league is incorporated under the laws of California. The objects of the association are: To preserve the natural attractions of localities and to enhance the beauty thereof through the artistic development of parks, gardens, streets, and of all objects which go to the construction and embellishment of cities and towns; and furthermore, the aims of the league shall be to advance the interests of forestry and to acquire and improve lands for public parks and reservations and to promote all work relating to the artistic and industrial development of California.

The officers are: President, Mrs. Lovell White; first vice-president, Mrs. W. G. Curtis; second vice-president, Mrs. Eleanor Martin; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Edward F. Glaser; recording secretary, Miss Mary G. Gorham; treasurer, Mrs. J. R. Martin.

The first work attempted by the league is the planting of the grounds of three schoolhouses—the Rinion, the Mission high and the Lafayette schools. The plans for the work are by the Chicago landscape gardener, Mr. Ossian C. Simonds.

Simultaneously certain streets south of Market were taken under consideration and a real missionary work begun by the members, who, trowel in hand, have planted, and so made the most personal appeal to residents of this district to beautify their homes with gardens. Plants and seeds have been generously donated by the florists and wholesale seedmen. Plants distributed among the girls at the Columbia square boys' and girls' playgrounds were received with enthusiasm, and flower boxes and gardens have thus been started in the homes.

ELLA C. B. FASSETT.

## GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.

President, Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison, 157 West 103rd Street, New York City.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:  
MRS. ROBERT J. BURDETTE,  
"Sunnycrest," Pasadena, California.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT:  
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MISS LOUISE POPPENHEIM,  
31 Meeting St., Charleston, S. C.

TREASURER:  
MRS. EMMA M. VAN VECHTEN,  
1110 Second Avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

AUDITOR:  
MRS. GEORGE H. NOYES,  
204 Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis

## GENERAL FEDERATION NEWS.



The pamphlet report of the Sixth Biennial which has been prepared by Mrs. Fox, the retiring secretary, is ready for distribution.

It contains, besides the proceedings of the business meeting of the biennial, the programs of all the literary sessions, the addresses of welcome, the report of officers and standing committees, the report of the Louisiana Purchase states committee, the report of the committee on reincorporations, the charter obtained from Congress, the address of Mrs. Lowe, the report of the State Federations and the by-laws as amended at the sixth biennial.

A copy will be sent to each club in the G. F. W. C., each president of State Federations, all ex-presidents of State Federations, the former state chairmen of correspondence, the former Federation secretaries and all standing committees.

Extra copies, postage paid, 15 cents.

Among the new directors of the G. F. W. C., is Mrs. Samuel H. Hays, wife of the attorney-general of Idaho. Mrs. Hays has taken an active interest in the club life of her state and city, serving the Boise "Columbia" Club as president for two terms, which was the proscribed limit. In the promotion of the traveling library system in Idaho, Mrs. Hays did excellent pioneer work, and is now one of the five state commissioners of traveling libraries. She was secretary of the General Federation of Women's Clubs for Idaho, second district, last year, and is truly an ideal club woman, for she has a happy home with five well-cared-for children, and has reared and educated her orphaned brothers and sisters.

## STATE FEDERATION NEWS.



ATE FRIEND gives the following helpful suggestions to her Texas club sisters and it is good enough to extend to all the states:

Standing upon the broad plain of higher culture which the club woman professes should not lead her into forgetfulness of the many little niceties of intercourse which give the polish to the natural kindness of heart. It is true that to the woman of true generosity of heart, the amenities are in a manner self generated; still there come the moments when the forms of etiquette must be observed, in order to keep smooth the club woman's intercourse. And, at no time is this more pronounced than in the proceedings before and after the great annual conclaves, the Federation. Eliminating the responses to the program committee, the town entertaining, et cetera, and coming direct to the Federation itself, several points of etiquette should be understood by the club women in order to keep down friction. And the observance of this is mutual between hostess and guest. Just so soon as the entertaining town and the program committee are final in their deliberations, the same, especially the social features, should, in some way, be made known to every single officer, committee chairman and delegate, who will be present at the convention; not that the social features are of primary importance, but that it brings to the woman information which enables her to

provide the necessary articles of wearing apparel, so that she may at least be attired suitable to the occasion. The new woman may come to stay ever so long, but never too long to take from the present woman her self-satisfied feeling when she is conscious that she conforms to the correct in her toilets.

Next, the individual hostesses, just so soon as each knows who her guests will be, should write the courteous note of invitation; this creates ease of mind upon the part of each visitor besides taking to her the tiny tinge of conceit that perhaps she was the first to be selected from the long list of expected visitors. There comes to mind the instance of a hostess who knew that certain guests were assigned to her, therefore she did not realize the urgency of an immediate invitation; this was very tardily sent. The expectant guest, in the meantime, was disconcerted; she felt, first of all, that she was not wholly welcome; she did not know whether or not to engage hotel accommodations; altogether she was uncomfortable. How much uneasiness the prompt letter would have dispelled.

But the prompt hostess should find an equally prompt guest. When large bodies are to be entertained, it seldom fails that the number of homes falls short. First of all, courtesy demands that the note of invitation be promptly answered; if accepted the hostess's mind is thus at rest; if declined, she can then bespeak another guest. This note, if accepted, should state clearly the route by which, and the hour at which the guests may be expected. Every possible detail should be saved the hostess. This note once written, should any change the hour at which the guest may be expected telegram should be sent.

The arrival made, the trunk check should be handed the hostess, whose duty it is to give the proper instructions and payment for luggage, carriage, and so forth, for the arrival as well as for the departure.

A guest cannot be too punctilious in conforming to the rules of the household which she joins for the few days. On the other hand a hostess can not be too particular in so providing the ways of the household that her guests can be prompt at all business sessions and social functions.

No engagements should be made by a guest before consulting her hostess; the hostess may have other plans, and it is the guest's duty to contribute as much as possible towards making her sojourn in the household a pleasure.

A hostess should have the foresight to afford her guest as much leisure for resting as is possible. The "forty winks" is most acceptable during the busy days. It is a mistaken kindness to have every moment occupied. On the other hand, exacting as it may be, the guest should not steal those forty winks; she must not delay a meal or a coachman one moment.

Wearisome as the day may have been, no guest should absent herself from the social gatherings attendant upon the Federation. These have been arranged at a sacrifice of time, of thought and of money. The theory, "There are so many others I will not be missed" does not hold. Your hostess notes your indifference. For her pleasure, if for no one else, the sacrifice should be made.

Upon leaving, a small fee for the maid is the delicate acknowledgment for any extra service which your presence has forced.

No sooner home than the note to hostess should be written;



the pleasant word spoken and the members of the family remembered.

The holiday season should find some slight remembrance, perhaps the souvenir postal, going into that household, the reminder that the memory of the visit still remains.

The heart ever responds to an act of courtesy.

In the business intercourse of the Federation a few rules should be observed, although a presiding officer possessed with the determination for prompt, parliamentary proceedings will leave room for very little individual intercourse.

In the convention hall the first rule for the delegate to observe is respect for the proceedings, and silence, absolute silence, unless speaking on the floor. If arrived tardily the seat should not be taken until there is a change of speakers.

Precedence in office should always be respected, even in social affairs. This does not argue obsequiousness, but merely the respect due the office, not adulation to the woman who holds it.

The delegate should seek to conform in every way possible to the plan of the arrangement committee; she should ask no special favors for the sake of a smoothly moving body.

The club woman should not wait for a formal introduction. No woman without respectability is admitted to her home club; hence the Federation is a fraternal sisterhood, where all meet to know each other.

The delegates should wear their badges on the train, so that fellow tourists can meet and exchange ideas in passage; also, that hostesses may recognize their guests at the station.

In order to promote sociability for the future, the club woman in attending the Federation should be provided with visiting cards in her purse; she will have frequent need for them. She should also, without fail, have her notebook and pencil convenient. So much transpires in the three days devoted to Federation matters, that in the excitement of it all it is impossible to retain all that is beneficial for the home club. In the language of old Polonius, "And these few precepts in thy memory."

### THE MASSACHUSETTS CONFERENCE COMMITTEE OF CLUB AND COLLEGE WOMEN.

IN EIGHT states, conference committees have been appointed by the federated clubs and the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. The committee for Massachusetts has taken under consideration the condition of primary and grammar schools through the state. "The schools for the children and not for the spoilsmen" is the watchword, and the aim is to re-enforce the able teachers to be found in the elementary schools and to create a demand for more of these "able" ones, men and women alike. Superior teachers can be kept in the profession only when salaries are adequate, school buildings well equipped and sanitary, and schoolrooms not overcrowded. The committee has been most fortunate in having as advisers nine men and women of the widest experience and fullest knowledge of educational matters. Dr. Thomas M. Balliet, superintendent of schools in Springfield, has served as chairman of this advisory committee: President Charles W. Eliot, of Harvard University, Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer and Secretary Frank A. Hill, of the state board of education, Mr. Samuel B. Capen, a former president, and Mr. Grafton D. Cushing, actual president of the Boston School Board, Miss Sarah L. Arnold of Simmons College, her successor as supervisor of Boston schools, Miss Ellen E. Carlisle, formerly of Wellesley College, and Miss Katharine H. Shute, of the Boston Normal School, complete the list.

This committee has made a report to the conference committee filled with practical suggestions on school administration and educational problems. In connection with this report the following questions are sent to all the federated clubs of the state with the

expectation that investigation along these lines will show at once to local committees as well as to the central committee to what points attention is to be directed if we are to make our schools what the good of the children demands that they should be.

The conference committee of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae and the Federated Clubs of Massachusetts asks your earnest consideration and co-operation for its special object, which is to increase the number of well-trained teachers with adequate salaries in the primary and grammar grades of the public schools of this state.

The following questions are proposed as a preliminary step in aid of a systematic and careful study of local educational problems and of local conditions and limitations under which they must be solved.

Please write answers (in as few words as possible) in the blank spaces, and return on or before January 1, 1903, to Mrs. Caroline Stone Atherton, chairman, 82 Ruthven street, Roxbury, Mass. It is not necessary for you to write the name of your town or city on this blank, and in any case it will not be made public in connection with the data which you supply. The results of this study, it is hoped, will form the basis for further co-operation of a more positive character.

Conference Committee: Caroline Stone Atherton, chairman, Mary Coes, Alice Upton Pearmain, for the Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

Elizabeth S. Balliet, Helen M. Lawton, May L. Sheldon, for the Federated Clubs.

#### LOCAL CONDITIONS AFFECTING SCHOOL PROBLEMS.

- A. Form of government. 1. Town? 2. City?
- B. Population. 1. Number of inhabitants June 1, 1900? (Date of United States Census.) 2. Number of male voters? (Same date.) 3. Number of male voters who were foreign born? (Same date.) 4. Number of foreign born children? (Same date.) 5. Total number of children 5 to 15 years of age September 1, 1900? (Report of the state board of education.) The state requires that local taxation shall provide for school purposes at least \$3 per year for each child between 5 and 15 years of age. 6. Number of children of compulsory school age, i. e., 7 to 14 years of age? (Same date.) 7. Total membership of public schools, including kindergartens and high schools, for the year 1900-01? 8. Total membership of kindergartens? (Same year.) 9. Total membership of high schools? (Same year.) 10. Total membership of primary and grammar schools? (Same year.) 11. Total membership in parochial schools? (Same year.) 12. Total membership in other private schools? (Same year.)
- C. Chief industry. 1. Farming? 2. Manufacturing? Name classes. 3. Commerce? 4. ———?

#### THE SCHOOL BOARD—ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

- A. ORGANIZATION. 1. Number of members?
2. Method. (a) By appointment? If so, by whom? How many each year?
- (b) By election? If so, by wards? Or on a general ticket? Or some by wards and some on a general ticket, that is, "at large"? How many of each each year?
- (c) Suggestions for nominations. In what way or by whom are suitable persons for membership on the school committee suggested in your city? (1) By politicians in the ward? (2) By members of the city committee of the various political parties? (3) By a non-political organization like the Civic League or the Public School Association? (4) Is the candidate himself expected to bring his candidacy either directly or indirectly before the city committee of his party or the city convention? [In at least one city of the commonwealth, each candidate is required to make a written request to the city committee over his signature, asking to

be nominated. This tends to keep suitable persons off the committee.]

(d) Nomination of candidates for election. (1) Are they nominated in the ward primaries? Or in the city convention or town meeting? (2) If in the city convention, are they nominated at large? Or do the representatives of each ward who are members of the convention suggest the candidates for school committee from their wards? By custom or by rule? (3) Does each political party make nominations for the school committee? (4) Do several political parties often nominate the same person for membership on the school committee.

3. Miscellaneous questions. (a) Would you recommend that in your city all ward representation on the school committee be abolished? Would you recommend that some members be elected and others be appointed by the mayor?

(b) Is membership on the school committee in your city looked upon as a stepping stone to membership in the city government?

(c) Is the mayor ex-officio chairman of your school committee? Has he the right to vote in school committee meetings?

(d) Have you on the whole a satisfactory school committee? How many of the members have more than a grammar school education? What other education? What is the occupation of each member?

(e) What is your opinion of the efficiency of a board of five, seven, or nine members, with executive work performed by paid experts, one to have chief charge of the educational, the other of the purely business department?

(f) Is there any organization in your town or city of the nature of a municipal or civic league, or public school association, which interests itself: First, in educating public sentiment to demand efficient service on the school board; second, in the nomination and election of suitable persons for membership? If not, would it not be well to form some such non-partisan organization for that end?

(g) Do women take an interest in the nomination of candidates?

(h) Do they vote for candidates for the school committee?

(i) Should they be urged to do both (g) and (h)?

(j) What other steps would seem to you to be effective in securing efficient members on the school board?

NOTE—Information on the preceding questions should be sought from all possible trustworthy sources, and not merely from a few persons. The superintendent of schools, members of the school committee, ex-members of the committee, principals, teachers, and public-spirited men who are informed on local political conditions and who help to direct local politics, are all in a position to give valuable information. Their advice as to desirable changes in the election of school committees would be valuable. It will be observed that the method suggested in question (d) (4), page 2, naturally has the effect of eliminating politics from the schools, and should be encouraged.

#### B. ADMINISTRATION.

1. Does the school board exercise executive and legislative, or only legislative functions?

2. Chief executive officers (superintendent, assistant superintendent, supervisors, business agent, etc.). (a) Have you a superintendent? Is the officer a man or a woman?

(b) Have you an assistant superintendent or supervisors? How many men? How many women?

(c) What other executive officers? What are their salaries?

(a-a) If you have a superintendent (1) is he elected or appointed? How and by whom? (No reply to the preceding is required if you unite with other towns to hire a superintendent, the method of election in that case being fixed by state law).

(2) Does he serve your town or city alone? Or a district? If he latter, how many towns are included?

(3) What is the length of service?

(4) What is the salary?

(5) What are the educational requirements, i. e., college education, normal school education, experience in teaching (if so, what?), etc? Did the preparation of your superintendent fulfill all the requirements?

(6) Is the superintendent the only one who has the right to issue teachers' certificates? Or are they issued by the school committee, and under what conditions?

(7) How much real power has your superintendent? Do you think it would be better if he had more power and more responsibility?

(d) If you have no superintendent, what is the reason?

3 Teachers (in primary and grammar grades).

(a) How many are there in the day schools of your city (in primary and grammar grades)?

(b) How many of them were born in your city or were residents of your city at time of appointment?

(c) Are they appointed annually, or during good behavior?

(d) Method of appointment.

(1) What are the "Rules and Regulations" for nomination and appointment?

(2) In practice are they nominated:

1 By the superintendent directly to the whole school board? Or to a sub-committee of the school board? Are the appointments usually or always confined to the candidates recommended by the superintendent?

2 By a sub-committee of the school board?

Are the appointments usually or wholly confined to the candidates recommended by this committee?

3 In committee of the whole, i. e., of the whole board, by individual members?

(e) Requirements for appointment.

(1) Choice.

1 On merit alone, without regard to place of residence?

2 Is home talent given the preference?

3 Is home talent alone considered?

4 Does your committee make any account of priority of application, and are candidates sometimes appointed mainly because they had applied first?

5 Does appointment depend at all or largely upon political or personal favor?

6 Have you a State Normal School in your city?

If so, does your school committee confine its appointments to positions in the primary schools to graduates of this school? To those of its graduates who reside in your city? Answer same for the grammar schools.

7 Have you a city training school?

If so, are non-resident students admitted? If non-resident students are not admitted, are the graduates of this school given the preference over all non-resident applicants when appointments are made to positions in your primary and grammar schools.

8. Does your committee accept teachers' certificates from other cities and towns? From the State Board of Education? Diplomas from Massachusetts State Normal Schools? Or does your committee require a formal examination of all applicants for teachers' positions? If the latter, has your committee an approved list of applicants? Are they appointed in the order of merit as indicated by the examination, or is the preference given to those on the list who are residents of your city? By custom or by rule?

(2) Preparation. 1. What preparation is required of teachers for the grammar grades, i. e., must they be college, high school or normal school graduates, have taught and how long, etc.?

2. Of teachers for the primary grades? (Answer same as above.)

3. What are the additional requirements for the positions of principals for either grade?



(f) How many teachers in your schools are graduates of normal schools? Of colleges? How many have attended a normal school but have not graduated? How many have had a partial college course?

(g) Is it difficult to dismiss inferior teachers in your town or city? If so, state the reasons.

(h) *Salaries.* (1) Grammar grades: Minimum? Maximum? Number of years required to reach maximum?

(2) Primary grades: Minimum? Maximum? Number of years required to reach maximum?

(3) Are uniform salaries paid teachers of the same grade without regard to quality of work?

(4) Do you think that greater efficiency might be secured by paying exceptional teachers higher salaries than others in the same grade, thus encouraging good and discouraging poor work, as is done at present in a few cities and towns of the state?

(i) *Pupils per Teacher.* (1) How many do your rules allow?

(2) How many are there in fact?

(3) What do you think of 35 as a maximum number?

NOTE—Information on the preceding points can be obtained from members of the school committee, ex-members of the committee, and especially from the superintendent and from principals of schools, provided it is received in confidence. All such information is best obtained through private conference, and not by writing.

(j) *Miscellaneous.* (1) The law requires that "Every city and town shall maintain for at least thirty-two weeks in each year a sufficient number of schools for the instruction of all the children who may legally attend a public school therein, except that in towns whose assessed valuation is less than \$200,000 the required period may, with the consent of the board of education, be reduced to twenty-eight weeks." How many weeks are your schools in session?

(2) Is there a strong sentiment in your city among citizens generally in favor of appointing local in preference to other applicants to teachers' positions? Or does this sentiment prevail only among politicians and friends of applicants? Are there frequent criticisms in your local papers censuring the school committee for not appointing more resident candidates?

(3) Is it customary for applicants to ask their friends to intercede for them with the committee?

(4) Have you any classes taught wholly by specialists? What subjects? What grades? Have you any teachers hired to teach only one or two subjects? What are the subjects?

(5) Will you watch appointments for the next two years to see what the practice actually is in appointing teachers—whether appointments are made on merit, through political or personal favor, on account of local residence without regard to merit, etc.?

4. School attendance and truancy. (a) How many truant officers? Number of men? Number of women? (b) Are the following laws strictly enforced in your town or city? If not, what is the reason, and what steps ought to be taken to secure their enforcement? Answer these questions for each of the following:

[Revised Laws, Chap. 44, Sec. 1.] "Every child between seven and fourteen years of age shall attend some public day school in the city or town in which he resides during the entire time the public day schools are in session, subject to such exceptions as to children, places of attendance and schools, as are provided for in Section 3 of Chapter 42, and Sections 3, 5 and 6 of this Chapter (44)."—(These exceptions cover small towns making other provision, private schools, the physically and mentally incapable, etc.)

"Every person having under his control a child as described in this Section shall cause him to attend school as herein required; and if he fails for five day sessions or ten half-day sessions within

any period of six months while under such control to cause such child, whose physical or mental condition is not such as to render his attendance at school harmful or impracticable, so to attend school, he shall, upon complaint by a truant officer and conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than \$20."

[Revised Laws, Chap. 106, Sec. 28.] "No child under the age of fourteen years shall be employed in any factory, workshop or mercantile establishment. No such child shall be employed at work performed for wages or other compensation, to whomsoever payable, during the hours when the public schools of the city or town in which he resides are in session, nor be employed at work before 6 o'clock in the morning or after 7 o'clock in the evening," etc.

[Sec. 29.] "No child under sixteen years of age shall be employed in a factory, workshop or mercantile establishment unless his employer procures and keeps on file, accessible to the truant officers of the city or town, and to the district police and inspectors of factories and public buildings, an age and schooling certificate," etc.

5. Health, medical inspection, sanitation, janitor service, etc.

(a) Is there any inspection of your schoolhouses by the board of health? How often. Are the sanitary conditions on the whole satisfactory? (Ventilation, plumbing and sanitariness, neighborhood surroundings, etc.)

(b) Is there any medical inspection from day to day, as in Boston, to detect contagious diseases in incipient stages? What other methods have you for preventing the spread of contagious diseases in schools?

(c) Is there any examination of eyes and ears of school children? Of throats and noses?

(d) Is the law requiring children to be vaccinated before they are admitted to schools strictly enforced?

(e) Are adjustable seats and desks provided? If so, are they actually adjusted to individual children?

(f) Janitors: (1) Who appoints them? To whom are they directly responsible for the condition of schoolhouses? Are they required to have an engineer's license?

(2) How often are school-room floors washed? Is damp sawdust, with or without a disinfectant, used in sweeping school-rooms?

(3) Do you use a cloth in place of the "germ distributing feather duster"?

(g) Do you provide school baths of any kind? What kind?

(h) Do you provide drinking fountains in place of cups?

(i) On the whole, is the atmosphere of the school-rooms sufficiently clean and wholesome to be faced day by day, voluntarily by teachers and under compulsion by pupils?

NOTE.—More frequent visiting of schools, with careful observation of the points above mentioned, is hereby urged upon all who would understand school problems.

6. Expenditures, Taxation.

(a) What is the total valuation of taxable property? (Report of the board of education, 1900-01.)

(b) What is the total amount of tax raised for all purposes in your town or city? (Same year.)

(c) What part of this (give figures, not percentages) is for schools?

(d) What part is for parks and public highways? (e) For police department? (f) For fire department?

(g) What do you think of the proportion for schools, considering the importance of education to the child?

(h) The amount paid per week per child for the support of the schools in your town or city is— Are you ready to advocate a more liberal expenditure for schools?

## EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS.

1. Promotions. (a) Do your schools provide for the more rapid promotion of children who are healthy and gifted than those who are physically weak or intellectually dull?

(b) What are the tests for promotion—examinations, records of daily recitations, or the judgment of the principal and of the teacher?

(c) How often may promotion by classes take place—annually or semi-annually? May individual children be promoted at any time during the school year?

(d) What other means are employed to advance bright and healthy children as rapidly as they are capable of advancing?

2. Special Schools. (a) Have you any special provision for normal children who for any reason are backward and in need of much individual help from teachers? What?

(b) Have you special provision for feeble-minded children? What?

(c) Have you any special provision for the education of children who are difficult to discipline or incorrigible? What?

(d) Have you public kindergartens? Is the supply equal to the demand?

(e) What other special schools, if any, have you?

3. Special Studies. (a) Which of the following have been introduced into your schools and into what grades? Drawing, singing, sewing, manual training, nursing, cooking? Which ones are taught by specially trained teachers?

4. Physical Training and Recesses. (a) Are there playgrounds in connection with your schoolhouses? (b) Is there an open air play recess? (c) What physical training is given? (d) Is it taught by special teachers? (e) Is it taught by the regular teachers and supervised by a specialist?

5. Vacation Schools. (a) Has any step been taken toward the establishment of such schools? (b) If so, through private initiative or through the school board? (c) How many schools have been established and at what dates? (d) Number of pupils enrolled (summer 1902)? Average daily attendance of same?

6. Schoolhouses as the Centers of Social Interest Out of School Hours. Has there been any effort, like that in New York and Boston, to open the schoolhouses and yards, out of school hours and under proper supervision, for educational and social purposes, including rooms for study of home lessons, reading rooms provided with books from the public library, rooms for debating and other club purposes, for physical training, games, play, etc.?

## ILLINOIS.

THE September CLUB WOMAN reports several new clubs added to the membership of Illinois in the G. F. W. C. At the biennial the membership was forty-eight.

The present membership is fifty-three, which was also the number reported at Milwaukee.

Clubs throughout the state are resuming work along many helpful lines.

Many of the year books are most artistically printed as well as suggestive in courses of study for the winter.

The I. F. W. C. will meet in the twin cities of Champaign and Urbana the third week in October. The meetings will be held in the chapel of the main building of the University of Illinois, which is located between the two cities, so that delegates will be entertained by both.

The arrangements are almost complete for a profitable meeting. Luncheon and dinner will be served in a building on the university grounds.

EUGENIE M. BACON.

## The Women's Agricultural and Horticultural International Union.

The Women's Agricultural and Horticultural International Union is an outcome of the International Congress of Women Workers, held in London during the summer of 1899. The idea of forming such a union emanated from Mrs. Emma Shafter Howard, delegate from California, who was struck by the amount of help and information she herself received at the meetings on agriculture and horticulture. After invitation, a small party of women interested in these subjects met at the Hotel Cecil, a few days after the close of the Congress. It was then decided that another meeting should be called before the general dispersion took place, at the close of the London season. This was held on July 14, at Miss Wilkinson's house on Gower street, when those present formed themselves into a provisional committee. On October 26 a third meeting was called, at 13 Stratford place, kindly lent by the Hon. Mrs. Arthur Henniker. The council and an executive committee were elected on this occasion. The executive held its first meeting in November, and, among other work, drafted a prospectus, which was discussed and adopted, with some alterations, at a council meeting held on January 31, at 28 Boltons, South Kensington, by kind permission of Miss Nina Paget.

During this period several workers and employers had been put in communication, advice given, and producers made known to consumers. It is worthy of note that in most cases it was the consumers who asked for the introduction.

We now come to the opportunities for usefulness which seem to lie before the union in the future. The prospectus states its objects thus: "To circulate information, and to compare methods of different countries and districts; to advise as to training, and make known openings for employment, and for disposal of produce; to uphold the highest standard of work, and to secure an adequate rate of payment for women engaged in any of the indicated lines." The experience of the last few weeks enables us to add several others. For instance, we must aim at inducing those members under training to make their course of study as complete as possible. A fortnight's attendance at a dairy class can not possibly turn out first-class butter makers; unless they are exceptionally intelligent, and can use such teaching as a stepping-stone to their previous experience, it amounts to no training at all. The pupils soon fall back into their old slipshod and unthrifty ways of working. For the woman who has thoroughly equipped herself in horticulture there are splendid possibilities. Posts go begging now, because the supply is as yet deficient of the right kind of women, rightly trained. There seems a chance also that for educated women, trained in dairy work, poultry farming, etc., opportunities may arise which have not been realized hitherto. But to secure such chances, women must have practical, definite training, and at present the means of procuring this are few. Some members, farming or teaching in different countries, will give us their views on this subject in the June number; as one of them writes, "There must be no sentiment." Not only must the system be thorough, but it must be entered into with thoroughness, not in a dilettante spirit, nor as a pastime, to be carried on in a "go-as-you-please" fashion.

Our present systems in England certainly leave much to be desired; to take dairying as an instance, the shortcomings of our own method of training are made manifest by the fact that Danish instructors have been engaged to teach in Ireland. Our colonies have, in some respects, a better plan than our own. From New South Wales we hear, "The dairy industry is progressing by leaps and bounds;" Queensland, Victoria and New Zealand have all much the same tale to tell; their dairy farms are mostly clustered near central factories, where the butter and cheese are made. In Western Australia dairy farming is in its infancy, but in New Zealand it is advancing; the amount of butter exported in 1897 was six times that sent away in 1887. Here, again, the factory system prevails, and men are employed. This industry is strictly supervised, but at the same time fostered and encouraged, by the government. These colonies, and others of which we have detailed reports, all suffer from the fact that the young unmarried women born on farms persist in going away to the towns to work, whether as factory hands, shop girl, or governesses. Yet the respective governments do nothing to foster the immigration of women of an educated class, who might desire to work on farms, and would remain there. This is a mistake, and perhaps one mission of our Union will be to convince them of it.

Hitherto we have alluded chiefly to England and English colonies; let it not be forgotten that we are international. It would seem sometimes that, on communication with other countries where branches of the union are being formed, we shall find a sim-



ilarity of thoughts and requirements, where we had thought only to seek comparison and contrast. We will take Belgium as an instance; there, as in Queensland and New Zealand, the intelligent, educated girl flees the country; it is thought dull and uninteresting, consequently the country becomes more dull and the towns more overcrowded. Therefore in the "program" of their newly-instituted "Lycee de L'Education Familiale" there is provided the Cours speciale pour dames habitant la Campagne; notions d'agronomie, de zootechnie de laiterie, d'horticulture, de aviculture, d'apiculture, de floriculture, etc." This was recently introduced to the notice of the "Societe Centrale d'Agriculture," at Brussels; at the same time its secretary, Mons. Henry, brought forward our union. Some extracts from his speech, and the consequent remark of the president, will fitly close this article. After dwelling on this special "course" for ladies in the country, Mons. Henry says of a woman taken from town to country: "She will like it, or she will be bored there, and she will only like it on the day she learns to understand it. . . . It now remains for me, gentlemen, to introduce to you a second institution, which first saw the light in England." After a resume of the history of the union, he continues: "The Women's Agricultural and Horticultural International Union has practical and social tendencies. Its objects are: (1) To afford material enlightenment on the methods of different countries in the agricultural work of women; (2) to make popular such operations, retain the young girl in the country, and provide her there with an honorable means of gaining her living. Several Belgian ladies have already sent in their adhesion, and it is hoped a large number will follow their example. We ought not to leave foreigners ignorant of the progress made here in the last thirty years, nor of the measures taken by government to afford agricultural training for women. This union will let others profit by our example and teach us what is being done elsewhere. It offers us the means of being useful to ourselves and our neighbors." The president replied: "Many thanks, Mons. Henry. You have dealt with what is feminine, but good. If we could keep these ladies in the country, it is probable men would be found there oftener. The projects you have introduced to us are vast, and it appears to me the utility is incontestable. Thus we can have but one hope—that they will succeed."

The above extract from the first "Quarterly Leaflet" published by the Women's Agricultural and Horticultural International Union has been followed by nine consecutive "Quarterly Leaflets," printed in alternate columns of French and English. As the ten countries then represented pledged themselves through their delegates to form local unions in their respective countries, California, as taking the initiative, ought to be among the first to register the work of women in agriculture and horticulture.

Information concerning a union on these lines has already been sent broadcast with a view to soliciting the names, addresses, and statistical reports of those women who own, develop and manage land from the one-acre tract to the one thousand acres—flower raisers, seed growers, poultry raisers, all farmers, and every branch of industrial production and economic work in California. Already a large registration has been gathered, this being the first practical step taken toward the establishment of a bureau of information between the economic home builders of the state. Its object as a union and bureau is to bring the women of the different countries into relation for the exchange and interchange of methods and information; to circulate information and stimulate individual effort, and help the formation of horticultural schools, etc. Not the least important object would be its recognition as a factor in the work of promoting the development of the state. The record already made by women would, if utilized, prove the greatest working factor that could be offered as an inducement to those who would create homes upon home acres. The latest report of the state board of horticulture is the first in the state to give this record its economic value in co-operation with the fully organized work of men. Both will be needed in the growth and development of human means to human ends.

The social problems that press upon us (such as co-education) will find their solution in the adjustment and multiplication of vocations to meet the demand of increasing needs; the city and country will acknowledge their independence; consumer and producer will find themselves living in the same economic world, to the helping of both and all working on lines of right method for the good of the common state.

Please send names and addresses to the corresponding secretary of the Women's Agricultural and Horticultural Union of California.

MRS. EMMA SHAFTER HOWARD,  
1206 Alice street, Oakland, Cal.

## MISSISSIPPI.

WE DO not hear often from Mississippi, and so the following from their recent circular will be read with interest not only by women, but by everybody:

In some states the clubs are co-operating with the school boards and doing effective work.

A number are devoting much time to child culture and have the public school teachers among them during discussion of this topic. In several towns the club women have fitted up rooms for the youths, making them attractive with books, games, music, even reading to those who like it, and giving to all the perfect freedom of home.

By the club women of Mississippi securing legislation in favor of the compulsory education two evils would be overcome: The abolishing of child labor (one of the questions so earnestly urged by the state president at the last convention) and (as Prof. Andrew Sledd, of Emory College, says), the well known "Southern indifference to educational enterprise." Prof. Sledd also says: This conclusion is finally confirmed by a single fact. "No Southern state (1896-1897) has any law for compulsory attendance upon such public schools as are provided; while every other state in the Union (six only excepted, three of which were slave states), has such legal provisions."

Another vital question discussed at the last convention was the establishing of a free scholarship at the I. I. and C. All the clubs of the State Federation should contribute toward establishing and maintaining this scholarship. The Texas clubs alone are raising \$3500 per annum for permanent scholarships.

MRS. E. J. EZELL,  
Chairman State Educational Committee.

[The state board of education will, the next scholastic year, set aside one day to be known as "Mississippi Day." State Superintendent of Education, H. L. Whitfield, has requested the clubs of the state to co-operate in observing "Mississippi Day."]

## OKLAHOMA.

THE "Times-Journal" of Oklahoma City commented editorially on the recent death of their Territorial Federation founder as follows:

The habit of speaking kindly of all who depart this life gives little opportunity for expression in printed words of a real bereavement or a genuine loss to the community, and to friends and relatives. This feeling of an inability to do her life justice is shared by all who knew Mrs. Douglas. As a devoted wife she guarded prudently and with wifely care her household; as a mother she had no other care until her son's education was complete; and when that loving work was finished her indomitable energy, keen intellect, culture and thorough scholarship were turned to good purpose in church and club work. Rarely are so many good qualities combined in one individual. With a love for doing good to humankind was added the ability to organize and to successfully manage undertakings, combining with a desire to do good the power to carry out the dictates of a heart overflowing with good will to humankind. Endowed by nature with extraordinary intellectual gifts Mrs. Douglas neglected no opportunity for improving her mind, and was unquestionably the foremost woman in educational and culture club circles in Oklahoma. Indeed, her fame was not confined to Oklahoma, for she stood close to the head of the great national organization of woman's clubs. Her death is an irreparable loss to the Federation of Oklahoma, which she organized.

In Oklahoma City Mrs. Douglas's wise counsel, loving solicitude and practical helpfulness will be missed, not alone by her household, nor church, nor local culture clubs. Her influence will be missed in the humane society, by those who wish the city beautified, and by a host of young people who looked to Mrs. Douglas for moral and religious guidance as well as for instruction in their school studies.

## OREGON:

WITH the arrival of the September CLUB WOMAN, full of good things, we are reminded that a few forward steps have been taken by the Oregon club women since we have reported.

Our State Federation held its second biennial meeting in Portland in the last week of April, a three day session, adjourning just in time for our delegates to go to Los Angeles.

The reports from all over the state were most encouraging, showing a large increase in membership (individual) and over 100 per cent in the number of clubs represented. The club reports showed the widening interests in different lines of work. To our first work in introducing a library law in the state, we have added the traveling libraries. Our educational committee has taken up the civil service work, and our domestic science committee has seen its work grow and expand most encouragingly. To these, our first three state committees, we have added since our first meeting a committee on civics, and one on Oregon history. In view of the fact that Oregon is soon to celebrate her centennial by the great Lewis and Clark exposition in 1905, Oregon history will be a most appropriate study for our clubs, and a large amount of civic work could well be undertaken and finished before we shall be ready to greet our many visitors, and welcome them to our grand state. The Federation voted to hold annual meetings hereafter.

We sent a delegation of fourteen to Los Angeles, and the sixth biennial was the first to all but one of our delegation; we think it will not be the last for them, and we shall see in our state work larger results because of the larger number that have been in touch with the great convention. Mrs. C. B. Wade was re-elected president, and Mrs. Samuel White, of Baker City, corresponding secretary of the Oregon Federation for the current year. Mrs. M. A. Spaulding, The Dalles, is General Federation secretary. Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway, our oldest and most eminent worker for women, well known for many years as president of the Oregon Equal Suffrage Association, was made honorary president of our Federation.

By request of the directors of a stock company of club women publishing the "Club Journal," the new board of the Federation, at its first meeting, voted to try the experiment of using the "Journal" as its (the board's) official for one year.

The president has also recommended that each club see to it that a club column is kept up in the local paper of its home town; club women read club papers, but the general public gets its information about club work from the newspapers.

The officers of the Federation are working to extend the subscription list of the CLUB WOMAN in Oregon, and we hope to see our labors crowned with success. Our observation has been that readers of the CLUB WOMAN are growing club women.

ADELIA D. WADE.

#### PENNSYLVANIA.

WITH the coming of September clubrooms again throw open their doors, and the club woman returns from mountains, shore or country to share with her friends in the enthusiasm of a well-spent vacation. But the summer has not been wholly given up to idleness even by so-called women of leisure, and the reports presented at the first club meetings will be replete in accounts of work of many kinds done for public good.

Following in the line of the Civic Club, of Philadelphia, the women's clubs of Pittsburg and Allegheny have aided in the maintenance of vacation schools and playgrounds, which have been of great pleasure and profit to the poor children of the cities.

Traveling library has occupied the attention of many of the clubs in smaller towns, and, thanks to the hearty co-operation of State Librarian George Reed, during the summer many of the villages have been supplied with literature which had heretofore been beyond their reach.

The Doylestown Village Improvement Society have given their attention to improving the conditions of the streets, and street sprinkling has been in operation during the summer largely as a result of the efforts of this club. Waste paper receptacles have also been furnished by the society, and the children have been encouraged to aid in beautifying the village by endeavoring to see that all waste paper is kept off the streets.

The annual convention of the State Federation will be held at Titusville early in October. The number of clubs added during the year make it probable that all previous conventions will be outnumbered, while the biennial election of officers which will take place render it especially important.

Club women all over the state will be glad to know that the three Philadelphia victims of the coaching disaster at Redlands, Cal., during the General Federation convention at Los Angeles, have seemingly fully recovered. Of the three Mrs. Josephine Schinpf was the most seriously injured. Mrs. Schinpf will be remembered as a former state editor of the CLUB WOMAN, whose facile pen last year furnished what is generally conceded to have been the fullest account of the State Federation convention ever furnished from Pennsylvania.

The Civic Club of Philadelphia will take up for their new work a strenuous effort to improve the political conditions of the city. Under the direction of Mrs. Edward McCollum, the Civic Betterment Society has been organized. This will have its headquarters at the Civic Clubrooms, 1302 Walnut street, but will have a branch in each of the forty-two wards of the city. It is intended to follow the thorough methods of organization used by the republican machine and have a working committee in each of the political divisions in every ward in the city. It is following on a large scale the work already begun in the tenth ward by the Tenth Ward Women's City Improvement Society organized last April.

The Childhood Protective League which organized last year for the purpose of securing the passage of the girl vendor's ordinance prohibiting girls under sixteen years of age from selling on the streets after dark, has, during the year, done much to aid in its enforcement. In addition to this the league has endeavored to lend a helping hand to many poor little waifs during hot weather. Sewing classes and free baths accommodating over sixty children have been provided on Saturday afternoons during the summer, while a lawn fete held at the residence of Miss Martha Stroud Calley, its president, in the latter part of August gave a red letter day not only to the children, but to many mothers as well. The secretary, Miss Mary H. Grubb, is actively engaged in work that will perfect the organization of the league which has for its object prevention work for children.

Dainty and fresh from the hands of its artist comes the year book of the Woman's Club of New Brighton, in its artistic hand painted cover. This is the first of the clubs of the state to issue a year book for the season now commencing. Beginning on September 10 and continuing on alternate Wednesday afternoons, this progressive club has arranged a program attractive enough to make the reader wish it was accessible to the whole state. "Holland" is the chief subject of study, but the land of the little Dutch Queen, interesting though it be, does not debar many pleasing events both musical and literary.

#### IOWA.

FROM all parts of the state comes news of club work planned for 1902-3. Many programs of unusual excellence have been issued and there seems to be a marked desire among the study clubs for more thorough and systematic work, while the larger clubs are starting with unusual enthusiasm in all departments. Interest in civic affairs, plans for public libraries, art collections and other kinds of public improvements are occupying attention.

Among the important laws passed by the Iowa General Assembly last spring was a compulsory education law, in which the State Federation, through its educational committee, has been greatly interested. This committee has worked diligently and effectively to arouse public sentiment in favor of such a measure, and two years ago an effort was made to obtain the necessary legislation but without success. In spite of discouragement the



committee went bravely on, and the favorable result this year was largely due to its efforts. Now that the public schools of the state are again in session the practical application of the law will be watched with interest.

The great interest taken by Iowa women in all forms of library legislation has been productive of many important results. As the State Traveling Library and State Library Commission were both brought into existence largely through their efforts, everything which effects the library extension movement in the state is watched by them with personal interest. The success of the bill before the General Assembly last spring for placing the traveling library directly in charge of the State Library Commission was therefore considered of especial importance and those most closely in touch with the library movement feel that it will strengthen the work this year in many ways.

In this connection it may be of interest to mention the lists of reference books prepared by the library committee of the Iowa Federation and the Iowa Library Commission. These lists are made up of books that will be loaned to clubs from the traveling library. No one club can receive all the books on any list, but a selection may be made and as many sent as can be spared. A list selected from the literature pertaining to the life and works of Shakespeare has already been issued and similar lists for the study of art, history and criticism and household economics will soon be ready.

District club meetings are proving valuable in Iowa in bringing into closer touch clubs in the towns making up the various congressional districts. This work is in charge of the committee on club extension, of which the auditor of the State Federation is general chairman, with a chairman for the ten congressional districts in the state. The tenth, fifth, sixth and eighth districts held very successful meetings last spring. This fall district meetings are already arranged for Estherville, Iowa City and Charles City.

An important executive board meeting will be held by the officers of the Iowa Federation early in October at Boone, where they will be the guests of the vice-president of the Federation. To this meeting have also been invited members of all standing committees, so that the entire working force of the state organization will have an opportunity to discuss plans for this year's work.

HARRIET C. TOWNER.

### ALASKA.

THE following from Tennessee's state president, Mrs. Perkins, will interest everybody:

SITKA, Alaska, Aug. 2, 1902.

Dear Editor,—It makes one feel that all club women are akin, if all the world are not, when one reaches this far northern latitude and finds in this town of 1300 inhabitants, two flourishing clubs whose members are untiring in their endeavors to make our stay a pleasant one.

The Woman's Club has for its president Mrs. Stowell, while Mrs. Brady, the wife of the governor of Sitka, is its corresponding secretary. The latter intended to be present at the biennial, but the vessel did not arrive at Los Angeles in time.

This flourishing organization of a year's growth is doing most excellent work and has a printed program of study. Their meetings are held in the reception room of the official residence. The floor of this old Russian room is carpeted with skins of the musk ox and polar bears of unusual size (one of the latter being valued at \$1000). And as we looked upon these beautiful furs we wondered if the attention of the members was not at times distracted by thoughts of Arctic scenes.

The Woman's Reading Club of Sitka is three years old and has a club house whose doors are open upon the arrival of excursion steamers. The president of this club, Mrs. Pendleton, is the wife of the commandant of the military post established here. The members are doing most commendable work in Shakespeare, having studied this author during their whole course. Their club home was formerly a Russian building and occupies a conspicuous place on Main street near the Greek church.

Most interesting was the picture which we shall always bear in mind of Mrs. Dustin, the first president, and Captain and Mrs. Pendleton standing upon the veranda of the little club house and waving adieu, as we are about to sail for a more Southern clime, regretfully bidding farewell to these new found friends and leaving behind us these snow covered mountains, glaciers, icebergs, verdant hills and beautiful isles—scenes unsurpassed in beauty and impressive grandeur.

MAE RUTH NORCROSS.

### UNITED STATES DAUGHTERS OF 1812.



The outlook for the Ohio society U. S. D. 1812 is more favorable this year than any preceding one. Having grown to sufficient dimensions it is to take its place among its older sister societies in the Cincinnati "Blue Book." The vice-presidents, Mrs. James Hicks and Mrs. John B. Hampton, together with the members in the northern part of the state, are spreading its fame abroad, and the president has been receiving letters requesting information with regard to it at intervals during the entire summer.

The annual meeting, held last May at the residence of the president, brought officers and members together, some coming from remote parts of Ohio. At this meeting perfect harmony prevailed and the program was sufficiently varied to prove of interest to all. The regent of the Cincinnati chapter D. A. R. and officers from other societies lent their presence and added dignity and interest to the occasion.

The Ohio state society has been the first to contribute toward the fund for the home the national society has as, its work—a home of shelter for descendants of America's patriots when too old to stand against the trials and misfortunes often sent to the aged.

New York state has its work prepared for the coming season. A committee has been appointed to take part in the fair which is to be held in the early part of November at the Waldorf-Astoria for the benefit of the industrial school for girls, which is one of the aims of the New York State Federation of clubs. The U. S. D. 1812 will have charge of a sword which will be voted to the most popular military or patriotic association. Mrs. Leroy Sunderland Smith is the chairman of this committee.

The society will give a high-class musicale in the middle of November at the residence of Mrs. J. Alexander Striker, for the benefit of the Ruth M. Hardy memorial fund, which is the philanthropic fund for the benefit of state members should any require it. Mrs. Jacob Hess is chairman for the musicale.

A large entertainment will be given about December 1 for the completion of the work of the furnishing of the drawing room of the naval branch of the Y. M. C. A. in Sands street in Brooklyn.

The Honor Day luncheon will take place on December 19 and will be in honor of Mrs. Roosevelt, wife of our President, Mrs. Odell, wife of our governor, Mrs. Low, wife of our mayor, and Mrs. Butler, wife of the president of Columbia College. Mrs. George A. Ludin will have this in charge.

A series of entertainments, parlor talks, etc., will be given during Lent for the benefit of any good work the society may undertake. They will be held at the homes of the members. The society will hold all its state meetings at Delmonico's.

The president of the Maine state society, Mrs. Charles A. Dyer, has just returned from abroad and reports greatly increased interest throughout the state. The society took charge of the Longfellow house during the month of August.

Vermont State U. S. D. 1812 had the floral decorations in charge at the recent visit of President Roosevelt to Brattleboro, and they literally covered him with flowers, they say. One of the prettiest incidents of his stay there, was the presentation to him of a bouquet of white carnations—the flower of the society—by one of the members.

The National Society of United States Daughters of 1812, also the New York State Society, have received personal acknowledgment from Mrs. McKinley and members of the late President's family for the gift of flowers and the message sent at the time of the nation's sorrow. The acknowledgment coming just now, it seems almost as if it were from himself—a benediction—an inspiration for good works, for almost his last official act was to sign our national charter.

Mrs. J. C. Fremont has done the New York State Society the honor to accept from them the badge of the society. Mrs. Fremont is an honored and honorary member of the national society, and is eligible in the highest degree for the active work were her health equal to the task.

Mrs. Mary F. Howe has been appointed state organizer for Mississippi.

Mrs. Everett Brosius for West Virginia.

Mrs. Britten Davis for Texas.

Mrs. Cobell Maddex for California.

Miss Mary F. Ridgely for Delaware.

Mrs. Esther Allen Jobs for Washington state.

These first appointments expire Jan. 8, 1903.

Alabama and Virginia have applied for presidents but have not yet qualified.

E. M. H. SLADE.

### MICHIGAN.

MUSKEGON will welcome the State Federation on Wednesday, October 15, for its eighth annual meeting. A preliminary public meeting will be held in the Methodist Church on Tuesday evening. The program of the convention will close with the evening of October 16.

In addition to the customary ceremonials of welcome, etc., the reports of officers and committees, the program will include a paper on "Manual Training," by Professor Mackenzie, of Muskegon; a paper on "Physical Training"; a round table talk on "Methods of Club Work"; also, "Impressions of the Biennial," by Miss Clara Avery, of Detroit, and other valuable features. It is expected that the program will equal in strength and helpfulness any that have been enjoyed by the federated club women of the state.

An effort is being made to have an art exhibit at Muskegon, from which can be bought pictures to increase the M. S. F. W. C. Traveling Art Gallery.

At its annual meeting, held August 12-14, the Michigan Woman's Press Association voted to offer the "Interchange," which has hitherto been the official organ of the M. W. P. A., and by its courtesy of the G. F. W. C. also, to the Federation as a free gift, with the hope that the mission of the paper may be broadened and the work of the Federation advanced.

The officers elect of the M. W. P. A. are: President, Miss Mabel Bates, of Traverse City; vice-presidents, Mrs. Pruella J. Sherman of Detroit, Mrs. Martha E. Root of Bay City, Mrs. Eva B. Giles of Battle Creek; recording secretary, Mrs. S. J. La Tour, of Detroit; corresponding secretary, Miss Ida F. Wain, of Detroit; treasurer, Mrs. Lizzie H. Johnson, of Flint.

Removal to other states and death have taken many influential club members from Michigan during the past few months. But other communities will be richer for the presence of women like

Mrs. Stella Williams, formerly of Battle Creek, Mrs. Woodley, of Menominee, and Dr. Eliza Mosher, ex-dean of the Women's Department of Michigan University.

The newly-elected president of the G. F. W. C. will be accorded most devoted loyalty by Michigan clubs, to whom she is well known as the sister of their own Mrs. Knaggs, of Bay City.

### MAINE.

THE president of the Maine Federation, Mrs. Anna Sargent Hunt, has announced to the clubs that the tenth annual meeting of the Federation will be held at Pine street Congregational church, Lewiston, October 8, 9, 10.

A reception will be given at the church parlors on Wednesday evening, October 8, to special guests, general officers, club presidents, delegates and visitors.

Thursday morning will be devoted to the welcome, response, president's address, reports of state committees and biennial reports.

The memorial service Thursday afternoon will be succeeded by the exercises celebrating the tenth birthday of the Federation.

Mrs. George C. Frye of Portland, the mother of the Maine Federation, will preside.

Prominent club women of Maine and other states are expected to make this session one long to be remembered.

The address Thursday evening will be given by the president of the General Federation of Maine clubs, Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison. Mrs. Laura E. Richards, the well known author, will give selections from her writings.

On Friday morning Mrs. Lizzie Jewett-Butler, chairman of the educational committee, will direct the educational hour, during which The Club Woman's Best Work will be presented. Later in the session the topic of Forestry will be considered.

Great confidence is felt that the Women's Literary Union of Androscoggin county is admirably fitted to make this a noteworthy convention.

### NEW YORK.

A GREAT bazaar for the benefit of a girls' trades school is to be held at the Waldorf on November 6, 7 and 8. The New York State Federation of Women's Clubs has charge of the affair.

The entire first floor of the Waldorf-Astoria will be given over to the bazaar, and the promoters confidently set the figure of their profits at \$30,000. This, they claim, is not exorbitant when it is considered that the Eclectic Club alone raised \$1000 for the same purpose by an entertainment last spring. There are 35,000 club women in the state of New York, many of them women in affluent circumstances. The annual convention of the State Federation occurs the week after the fair, in Brooklyn, and it is expected that large numbers of club women from all over the state will spend time enough in New York to attend both functions and do their Christmas shopping at the same time.

The trades school is to be for the teaching of trades to girls, and, to make it possible for the girls to attend, scholarships of \$100 a year will be provided, which would take the place of the wages the girl might earn if she went to work.

The location of the school and other important matters connected with its establishment will be decided at the Brooklyn meeting of the Federation.

At the bazaar the Eclectic Club will have the myrtle room, which it will transform into a very beautiful Japanese tearoom. Tea will be served by geisha girls and a continuous vaudeville will be in progress.

The east room is to be used for dancing each night, when there will be minuets by girls and boys in Colonial dress. Several social dancing classes have subscribed and will attend in a body on different evenings.

The Twentieth Century Club will have an orange grove, and Sorosis will give the first of the club receptions, which will be a feature of each afternoon. A grand piano or an automobile will be given to the most popular club woman in New York as chosen by ballot, the ballot box to be in charge of one of the best known club women in the city. A handsome sword will be awarded to the most popular officer in a New York state military organization by the same method.

An elaborate decorative scheme, consisting of autumn foliage, with autumn fruit represented by colored electric bulbs, is to be carried out through the entire floor.



## BOOK TALK.



NEW departure among publishing houses has been made by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., at 4 Park street, Boston. They have fitted up the first floor of their establishment for the convenience of visitors. In the front is a large, handsome room overlooking the historic Common with its overhanging elms. The room is finished in dark golden oak, with shelves running entirely around it, in short after the fashion of a model library in the model private house. There is a long table of heavy oak in the center where may be seen all the most recent publications of the house. Across the two windows are deep, inviting settles of the same wood and there is a big open fireplace which lends just the right touch of color and glow to the beautiful room. All hint of sombreness is taken away by the rows upon rows of beautifully bound books.

Standard books new editions, poetry, history, belles-lettres, fiction, all have their own separate division, and everything published by this celebrated firm may be found there. Back of this library, where the casual caller may rest and read and gaze upon the handsomest new books, is another large room filled with bookstacks like a public library, so that if one wants a book that is not in sight in the library, she may be waited upon immediately. All trace of commercialism is suppressed, though one might, doubtless, buy a book there if she wanted to.

There has been a great deal of talk in the literary magazines this year about the value of book reviewing, and various publishers have been called upon to express their opinions. Most of these have declared that the reviews of books are helpful and some have even declared that they are the best kind of advertising. They must be, indeed, where periodicals use the reviews prepared and sent them by the publishing houses themselves.

The truth is, however, that there are few, if any, "literary critics" nowadays who are reviewing books. Occasionally there is a disgruntled literary editor who feels that his duty is done when, after hastily glancing through or partly through a book, he says some slashing things about it; but the man or woman who sits down to read a book conscientiously and then declares for or against it out of his honest conviction, is not often to be found, especially on the daily paper. There are several causes for this, the foremost, perhaps, being that such a constant flood of new

books is pouring into the "literary department" of the newspaper that it is impossible for any one or two or three people to read them conscientiously, or even superficially. Consequently they are obliged to cultivate the art of judging a book hastily or from the publisher's statements; and where the reviewer is content not to attempt criticism from such a standpoint, it is all well enough. But it is hardly fair for the "critic" to attempt criticism without some knowledge of the book in hand, or to condemn a book because he happens not to like the writer.

What constitutes a book review, anyway? It is only the opinion of one man or woman at best—and too frequently not that—and that man or woman is often no better judge of a book than his or her readers. From this point of view book-reviewing amounts to nothing, except from an advertising standpoint. For my part I never criticise a book unless I have read it with

some degree of understanding; but when a book seems to me to ring false, no matter how much it is lauded, nor how many thousands it has reached I shall say so—that is, if I have time to read it at all.

"Beautiful Joe" was one of the best animal stories ever written, and now that its author, Marshall Saunders, has written "Beautiful Joe's Paradise," we may look for a most cordial reception for it from all who knew and loved the old dog in the other book. The theory that there is a future



LIBRARY AND RECEPTION ROOM AT HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & CO.'S, BOSTON

for dogs and cats and horses was never more attractively set forth, and it is a comfort to animal-lovers to read the book and believe there may be a place somewhere where the creatures which suffer so much in this world may find some consolation. The book is published by L. C. Page & Co. at \$1.20.

A very pleasant story, exceedingly well told, may be found if you ask for "Councils of Croesus," by Mary Knight Potter. (L. C. Page & Co.) The tale is a simple one, yet diverting enough. Mrs. Lorraine, after nearly twenty years of unhappy married life is left a widow, free to give her whole attention to the satisfactory establishment of her daughter Laura. Her own experience had made her particular as to the qualifications of her future son-in-law. The girl fixes her affection on a youth thoroughly eligible in all but one respect—his social position, which is not sufficiently lofty to satisfy the requirements of the mother. Having set her mind on capturing for her daughter an English nobleman, whose only defect is in being twice the girl's age, she sets about breaking up

the Daphnis and Chloe affair that Jack Wilton and Laura have been promoting on their own behalf. Mrs. Lorraine is still young and exceedingly charming, and proceeds to lose her own heart, thus making a romantic situation worth following up.

Jean Sherwood Rankin, of Minneapolis, has begun a series of books on "Everyday English," which will be valuable to the woman at home as to the student at school. Prof. G. Stanley Hall voiced a growing sentiment when he said at Detroit that most modern language books should be burned. "More language and less grammar" has come to be the cry. The magazines devoted to secondary schools, which voice the opinion of the best element of the educational world have for several years been earnestly advocating applied methods which shall divorce language study and grammar. This is what the author of Volume I. seems to have tried to do. The entire book looks toward vocabulary gains, through interest in language and literature and through original, spontaneous thought. She has definitely avoided the legitimate and proper fields respectively of the reading book, the speller and the writing book. The book is published by the Educational Publishing Co., 224-228 Wabash avenue, Chicago.

I have read "Chanticleer" by Violette Hall, and it is indeed "A Pastoral Romance." Having lived in the open country all summer, its experiences appeal to me with especial force, but I do not hesitate to pronounce it one of the daintiest, sweetest and freshest of the open-air books of today. The plot is simplicity itself. A young literary man, with apparently a large income, is enjoying himself in the country, but one day his house burns down and his wife suggests that they build in the woods. So they build a primitive house and settle down to enjoy nature. Soon a settlement of everyday people without artistic tastes and temperaments springs up about them, much to their disgust. There is a young doctor and a brilliant college bred girl, who has graduated with high honors, who fall in love and marry, but Miss Hall drops back into descriptions of nature at every point, doing it so charmingly that one cannot tell whether it is the "romance" or the "pastoral" that one likes best. (Boston, Lothrop Publishing Co. Price, \$1.50.)

Another country book, although on altogether different lines, is "Stillman Gott, Farmer and Fisherman," by Edwin Day Sibley. It is a good story, an excellent story. It could have been improved greatly by leaving out the dialect, or perfecting it; for the Yankee dialect does not consist of writing "uv" for of, "wuz" for was, or "ther" for the. If there had been less dialect the book would

have been better. Stillman lived alone on a farm which was so full of rocks that he had "ter whittle pertaters down to a sharp p'int ter git 'em inter ther ground 'tween ther rocks." But he managed to have money enough on hand to scare the wolf away from many a door that was dropping from its hinges, and when Ed Locke wanted to strike out and leave the farm against the wishes of his father, Stillman gave the young man some good advice and a hundred dollars to help him in his struggle in Boston. Ed, of course, conquered Boston, the world and the girl he loved, to the great joy of Stillman, who kept on doing good in Maine. He dies, in the last chapter, leaving some \$25,000 for the poor in his native town. The book is attractively made up by John S. Brooks & Co., Boston. Price, \$1.50.

The "Century Magazine" is about to print a series of articles by Prof. Justin H. Smith of Dartmouth College, author of "The Troubadour at Home," covering the story of the Canadian campaigns of Montgomery and Arnold in the first year of the revolutionary war—what the author calls "The Prologue of the American Revolution." Professor Smith has undertaken to do his work, so far as possible, from original sources of information, and he has personally gone over the routes of Montgomery's troops from New York to Quebec, and Arnold's from Boston to the same point. He has given special attention to Arnold's expedition through the Maine woods. The first article, which will appear in the November "Century," covers Montgomery's Montreal campaign. All of the papers will be richly illustrated.

A charming story for little girls is "Susanne" (by Frances J. Delano), who lived with her grandfather and her aunt in the country and always had things happening to her. Her name was Susanne Winslow and she was an orphan; by and by she proved to be an heiress and was carried off to New York to live with an aristocratic aunt and surrounded with all sorts of luxury, but she was homesick for grandpa, and by and by slips

away and goes back to find It is one of the sweetest of children's books published by L. C. Page & Co., of Boston. Price, 40 cents.

"Our Little African Cousin" is published by the same firm at 50 cents, and is the story of negro children in their own land, their habits and customs. It is both an instructive and interesting book, the latest in "The Little Cousin Series" by Mary H. Wade, which covers the young people of most of the other countries in the world.

"Like Another Helen" is a story of India in the eighteenth century by Sydney C. Grier. It is told in the first person and in a series of letters. The descriptions are excellent and the pictures of Indian life presumably good. At least it would hardly be safe to



"WHOA, ALEX! WHOA, I TELL YE!"  
(From "Concerning Polly," by Helen M. Winslow.)



refuse them that virtue at this distance of time and space. The story is excellently told and the book is quite worth while. Boston. L. C. Page & Co. Price, \$1.25.

"The Warden of the Marches" is by the same author and published by the same firm at the same price (\$1.25.) This, too, is a story of India, like the seven other novels of this author. He has found a comparatively unworked field and as he has the art of story telling well in hand, combined with correct atmosphere and actual knowledge of the social life of that far country, his books are a valuable contribution to modern fiction. In "The Warden of the Marches" there is a deep plot, well sustained, and a vital human interest.

An admirable Christmas book for children is "Gulliver's Bird Book" by Lemuel Gulliver, assisted by L. J. Bridgman. It is, of course, a nonsense book, but the tales are so funny, and the pictures so well bear out the text that it will furnish amusement in many a home. Gulliver's travels bring forth many queer sights, and were never better illustrated. L. C. Page & Co., Boston. Price, \$1.25.

"Five Little Peppers Abroad," by Margaret Sidney, is another of those delightful books which are yearly received with shouts of glad welcome by thousands of little folk. This one is just as charming as the other famous books that have preceded it in the series. It takes Mother Pepper—now Mother Fisher—the little doctor, Polly and Phronsie over seas, with Grandpa King, Jaspar and Parson and Mrs. Henderson. There in the new scenes and new experiences the brightness, the wit, the kindness, the keen knowledge of child nature that have made all the Pepper books so irresistible are just as conspicuous as they have been in the Pepper stories at home. Boston. Lathrop Publishing Co. Price \$1.10, or \$1.25 postpaid.

"Spindle and Plough," by Mrs. Henry Dudeney, is an out-of-doors English novel, the best of Mrs. Dudeney's stories so far. The heroine, Shalisha Pilgrim, relic of a good family, turns gardener. Her employer is a rich widower and falls in love with her, but, contrary to the usual thing in novels, she will have none of him. Then another man, her employer's bailiff, falls in love with her. But for the life of her she cannot become interested in him, although she finds him worthy and manly. So he takes his worthiness and his manliness to parts unknown, and the employer decides at about the same time that if Shalisha won't marry him someone else will. So he weds another, and together they go away for good and all; but later on the other man comes back and marries her. Of course she could not be allowed to remain an old maid. New York. Dodd, Mead & Co. Price, \$1.50.

"The God of Things," by Florence Brooks Whitehouse, is a novel of today, which from beginning to end holds the reader's attention by its freshness, cleverness and entertaining qualities. While the scene of the novel is Cairo the characters are American. The descriptions of Egyptian scenery are a feature of this fascinating story and one which should be read for its local coloring as well as for its up-to-date freshness and heart interest. Boston. Little, Brown & Co. Price, \$1.50.

"Social Salvation," by Washington Gladden, is addressed especially to the ministry and the churches, but it deals with matters in which every good citizen is interested, and the principles of conduct to which it appeals are of universal application. The whole argument gathers around this contention, that the central interest in all these problems is the interest of character; that the question of saving men and women is the fundamental social question. The subjects considered are the relation of the church and the pulpit to social questions of the day, studying particularly the care of the poor; the relation of the state to the unemployed; the questions of prison reform and of the treatment of the criminal classes; the social vices; public education in its various phases

and the government of cities. All earnest women should read this book. Boston. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Price, \$1.

"Buel Hampton," by Willis George Emerson, has all the essential elements of an interesting romance. The plot is skillfully executed and highly dramatic. The characters are real men and women with strong personalities, whose fortunes you follow from page to page with rapt curiosity. It will be welcomed by the reader in search of fresh plots, new fields and original conceptions of character. Their publishers have done their part in good taste, and the volume is far more substantial and attractive than the majority of novels. Boston. Forbes & Co. Price, \$1.50.

"The Siege of the Lady Resolute," by Harris Dickson, is a new and thrilling romance of the time of Louis XIV. The scenes are in France and America. It is a love story, original, romantic and full to the brim of unusual incident and exciting adventure. It is one of the best romantic novels of recent times. The publishers deserve credit, also, for the making of the book, which is most attractive with its head and tail-pieces, its title page and its freedom from hackneyed illustrations. New York. Harper & Brothers. Price, \$1.50.

"Bread and Wine," by Maude Egerton King, is an idyllic story of Swiss peasant life. A husband and wife, after years of happy married life in their mountain village, have a quarrel. A serious misunderstanding arises, their happiness vanishes, and for a while they are very miserable. The simplest of plots, yet the author has told the story with such wealth of detail, so much of the color and atmosphere of Swiss village life, and so complete sympathy with her characters, that the book is thoroughly charming. The story is being well received everywhere, and deservedly so. Boston. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Price, \$1.25. H. M. W.

Don't forget to take your CLUB WOMAN to your first meeting and urge your club sisters to subscribe. Those who subscribe early may begin with the September number, and thus get the whole of Volume X.

## FOOD HUNGERED FOR

Food is sometimes indigestible though appetizing in appearance; and it is sometimes digestible when it may not be attractive to the sight or taste.

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"Literary Boston of Today," by Helen M. Winslow, is an accurate, gossip description of the literary folk that center in Boston at the present time. It does not treat only of such authors as live in Boston proper, but covers all those whose affinities, social and literary, are there. It does not pretend to a critical estimate of the present-day literature emanating from Boston, but only to a discussion of the homes and habits of Boston authors. Nobody was more surprised than the author that the New York "Sun" deemed the book of such importance as to call for three quarters of a column of valuable editorial space. As a picture of literary life in Boston today it is both instructive and interesting, and should be read as such. It is a valuable book for the reader who doesn't happen to be in the "literary set" herself, and occupies an important place among books on modern literature. Boston. L. C. Page & Co. Price, \$1.25.

"Concerning Polly" is another new book by the editor of the CLUB WOMAN, to whom it happened to have two new books come out the same week last August. This is the story of a little waif of the streets who was carried off into northern Vermont and adopted by an old couple who had all the traits of common, shrewd, Yankee good sense and great human kindness in their hearts which are found among the people of that region. Miss Winslow knows her Vermont well and her dialect is refreshingly true to life. Another literary man who has read "Concerning Polly—and Some Others," says: "I have seldom seen a book that interested me in so many ways at once. Its character sketches are perfect. I could almost see Uncle Caleb and Aunt Thankful and hear them speak. One charm of the story was that all the incidents seemed to be worked out so perfectly that each one was a story in itself, while all of them fitted in to round out the whole story. The description of the camp meeting and the talk of the circuit rider, Hi Skeels's double surprise party, the horse race in which good Aunt Thankful takes an involuntary part, and in

fact all the incidents are told in such a natural manner that one feels as though he was taking part in them. When I read Aunt Thankful's poetry about the singing school I could see the whole jolly party enjoying the ride home from singing school. It is, in short, a charming story charmingly told and should be very popular." A verdict with which we all agree, and it will doubtless be one of the widely read books of the season. Boston. Lee & Shepard. Price, \$1.50. A. B.

At a recent club meeting in New York Mrs. Agnes B. Ormsbee made some pertinent remarks on humor in club life. Said she: "There is a too great tendency on the part of clubwomen and women in general to regard a joke in the light of a bomb, which may go off and entail very serious consequences. In clubs, as in the greater world without, we are prone to regard the person of owl-like demeanor as the possessor of hidden depths of wisdom. And yet women have dared to be humorous with the pen, if not with their tongues. One has only to remember Mrs. Poyser and later creations of the same genius; Mrs. Gaskell's "Cransford," Jane Austen's shrewd analysis and characterizations, Mrs. Stowe's Sam Lawson and Aunt Lois, and the later creations of Rose Terry Cooke and Marietta Holley to be sure of that. A good many women have persuaded themselves that they can't endure puns, and that jokes are not dignified. I have one or two friends who have read humorous papers before clubs. They have assured me that they would never do it again. The strain of dead silence was too great."

She quoted Mrs. Phillip Carpenter as saying that she heard the story one day that St. Peter was so considerate of the husbands of clubwomen that he always gave them a seat up in front and two halos. She went home and told her husband. Mr. Carpenter happened to be hunting in the bureau drawer for socks at the moment, and he responded grimly that he would rather have ante-mortem socks than post-mortem halos.

## CLUB STUDY.

Conducted by Mrs. May Alden Ward.



THE Hudson (Mass.) Woman's Club used in 1901 the following study program on Mythology.

Home of Aryan Races; Origin of Myths.  
Distribution and Preservation of Myths.  
Greek Myths of Creation.

Norse Myths of Creation; Greek and Norse Myths Compared.  
Reading from "The Edda."  
Olympian Gods. Narration of Myths.  
The Gods of Asgard.  
Gods of Earth and Underworld. Myths and Legends.  
Naiads and Dryads, Giants, Dwarfs, Elves, Legends and Folklore.  
Twilight of the Gods. The Sigurd Saga.  
Myths of the Wagner Operas—The Rhinegold, Siegfried, The Dusk of the Gods.

In Keene, N. H., the Fortnightly Club has used the following program on Spain with profit and pleasure:

Ferdinand and Isabella. Columbus and the Discovery of America.

Charles V. and His Times. Spanish Explorations.  
Philip II. The Escorial, Seville.  
Spanish Music, Spanish Art, Spanish Literature.  
Gibraltar. Napoleon in Spain. The Recent War.

Will some one having a copy of the New England Club Directory, published by us in 1899 or 1900, kindly let us have it? We will gladly pay postage on it.



## THE EVOLUTION OF HELEN MIDDLETON

(Continued from page 46)

A cheerful bustle was perceptible everywhere, and the stages, drawing up in front of the unpainted hotel, their horses panting with exhaustion, dropped numerous passengers and swung off with sundry flourishes, while the freight teams, no less important, came in with a cheerful jingling of bells.

With the returning club members came an infusion of good feeling and a wholesome breath of the great outside world, though thoughts of past grievances still rankled in the breasts of some.

So passed the brief spring and summer, and autumn once more spread its colors over the hillsides. A sadder and wiser woman than one short year ago Helen Middleton pursued her way homeward late one afternoon.

"After all," she said to her companion, who was also her friend and confidante, "I have been in the club over a year now; before I joined it I was happy and contented, to say the least. If I have received any benefit from it or benefited anyone else I cannot see it. I am discouraged, and I've done my best, too," she added plaintively.

"I know," said her companion, sympathetically, "you have been unfortunate, but you are young. Candidly now—have you done your best at all times, in all places? There are some women who, in plunging into club life, as in everything else they undertake, go to extremes and neglect the home. That, of course, prejudices the husbands, and they judge all other club women by that standard, which is rather unjust, I think. Then, too, even if you feel certain that you are in the right, where there is no question of conscience involved, you can afford to yield your point of view, both at the club and at home."

"Then you think I have been to blame?" she choked.

The other paused and looked at her, a smile lay in her clear gray eyes; she was in middle life, and she could afford to smile at what seemed so real and serious to her young co-worker.

"Do you really wish me to be frank?"

"Yes, oh, yes!" exclaimed Helen, "go on."

"Well, then, I do think that you have brought your troubles upon yourself. Moderation in all things is good to remember. You ought to stand ready to work for your club, but not to the extent of robbing your home of your time and services. You are young and inexperienced, and, while I do not depreciate the value of youthful enthusiasm to the club, still, is it not possible that you have taken upon yourself work that others could have done quite as well, and also a dictation of the affairs of the club that the age of your membership and your standing in the club would hardly warrant."

Helen drew in her breath sharply. The elder woman laid her hand on the arm of the younger with a caressing touch.

"You must not be discouraged," she said, "we all have our time of learning, and, if we are worthy, we come out all the better for our experience. All timber needs seasoning before it can be used. My advice—oh, this wind!" She laughed and clutched frantically at her hat. "It never did blow so at home." She was a Pennsylvania woman.

"Put yourself right at home, dear, first of all, and for the rest—" Another sudden and fiercer gust of wind took her breath.

"You had better not stop any longer," Helen said, "some other time you can tell me the rest." She smiled bitterly. "Shall I help you?"

"Oh, no, I think not. This is not as bad as it is sometimes," she added cheerfully.

Helen stood and watched her out of sight. "Et tu Brute," she thought. "This club business will rob me of everything."

Was that not the smell of burning brush? She paused again,

watching the people struggle along in the rising gale. She could not help laughing at the antics of some of them, chasing hats carried away by the wind and striving to keep themselves and belongings together.

"People do take their lives in their hands," she thought, "in coming here, and after all what is it but gold that brings us all here?" Her lips curled in scorn, then her eyes traveled from the heavy growths of pine trees on the mountain sides to the rough board and log houses of the town.

"If a fire should break out tonight—" she shuddered as she hurried into the house, but she did not finish the sentence.

Night was darkening down, and she was busying herself about the evening meal, when above the roar of the storm, she heard the wild shriek of the Aureum tunnel whistle, she knew only too well that something was wrong. Then some one called "fire"! Hurrying to the window, she saw a sight that might make the bravest fear. To the west, and rushing before the wind, was a solid wall of fire. She caught up her shawl and ran out into the street, and joined the crowd in its trend toward the fire. The street was filling with women and children, wagons loaded with axes, shovels and pails dashed past them. Those brave miners were not going to let their homes go and their helpless families be exposed to the storm without a struggle.

Above the roar of the wind, the din and the clatter, the sound of that whistle rose and fell like the cry of a great monster in mortal agony.

The fire was coming nearer; leaping from tree to tree, great tongues of flames shot hungrily out. The hills were lit up for miles around, and the surrounding blackness seemed full of flying sparks. It was an awful nightmare of sights and sounds. And beyond it all, rising calm and cold, they could see the white peaks of the range. And they had been there unchanged through ages. The thought was strengthening.

Helen was standing among the crowd shivering, though unconscious of cold, when someone drew her arm within his own. She looked up passively and saw her husband. He looked strange and ghastly in the glare of the fire.

"Helen!" he said, "you here! and alone? This is no place for you. Come, I will see you home."

No word was spoken by either on the homeward trip. In the face of this danger they both realized how inexpressibly dear each was to the other.

He could not remain at home with her. Every man was needed to fight the fire that night if he would save his home.

The excitement ran high. Wagon loads of furniture came dashing down the streets. Groups of people passed up and down, looking pallid in the half light. But Helen Middleton moved not. With hands loosely clasped in her lap, she watched the fire that threatened their home and all they possessed, and even their lives, without a tremor.

Sitting there alone, she thought over all the events of the past year, and saw her own conduct in its true light. She had been weak and foolish. She loved praise and admiration. Not purely for the love of the work alone had she labored, but for a conspicuous place in her small world. She wanted to be it. For this

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she had set aside the inestimable blessings of a happy home and a husband's love. For a while she sat there hopeless, looking out upon life with the bitter cynicism of the young in their first defeat. Then she remembered that she was young, and that the young do make mistakes sometimes. The experience of the last year had broadened her, she had a wider outlook. Step by step she went over the ground again. Yes! she had been wrong. She must be the first to acknowledge her fault, both to her husband and to those members of the club whom she felt that she had wronged. She felt better after she had settled the matter in her own mind.

So that long night wore on; the wind mercifully changed and lulled; only now and then a tongue of flame shot out of the dense smoke where the fire had raged; one by one the restless lights disappeared from the windows, and only an occasional voice and footstep broke the night's stillness.

With the gray dawn Edward Middleton came. He answered the mute question in Helen's eyes. "Yes, the town is out of danger. We fought the fire hand to hand."

He would not let her move. He drew a chair close to her and pillowed her head on his shoulder.

"Helen," he said softly, "I've been thinking tonight that it is a great deal that we men ask of our wives—to leave comfortable homes for homes among such dangers and hardships as these. If you wish to go back to your people—Helen! is it possible that you do love me a little—that you wish to stay with me after all?" He was gazing into her face with a keen, eager scrutiny.

She was laughing now, though there was a suggestion of tears beneath.

"Yes," she said, "it is possible. I do love you—a little, and I should like to stay, please."

Then she said more seriously—she had been studying the neat little apology that she meant to make—"I have been in the wrong. It was a delirium but it is over now. Let us begin over again wiser than we were before. I—," but he checked her flow of words with a kiss.

"And the club—?" he began again presently and paused.

"The club! Oh, I intend to stay with that. I've put my hand to the plow, you know," she said playfully. "You will not mind my staying?"

He looked doubtful. "And if I did?"

"I should be sorry. I know my tendency of either rushing into one extreme or the other, and I will guard against it, but I don't wish to fall into the mental apathy in which the club did find me. The club is a stimulus to the mind. We have both a right to demand certain things of one another, but there are separate rights, and as long as these rights do not infringe on the common interests of the home, or the individual rights of either one of us, I think they should be maintained."

"Where did this little head gain so much wisdom?" He laughed and kissed her, adding, "Well, then, so saith the oracle, and so shall it be."

They stood together, hand in hand, and in silence.

"See, Helen," he said, at last. In the west the smoke hovered

low and lay between the hills. The eastern sky glowed with the new morning and its rosy glory was reflected on the snowy peaks of the west, and the shadows were creeping slowly down the dark, pine-covered hills.

"Let us begin our new day together—a long, long, sweet day."

The summer that followed was one of peace, good work and prosperity to the club, but fall found the town nearly deserted. All the bright dreams had faded away into realities, and these people went sadly away, down the canon, in ones, in twos, in families.

To the very last the club had stood stanch, but finally it, too, had to succumb. It was a courageous little band—a strange drawing together of different types of women, and there were nearly as many states represented among them as there were women.

They are all scattered now, far and wide. On this earth they will all meet together no more, but each is kinder, broader and better for some of the lessons learned in that mountain-bound camp. But none learned nor benefited more than Helen Middleton. She is not grieving over returned manuscripts now, for her stories are known and read. None knows better than she how much she owes for what she is to her club life.

From the woman of the past, out of trials, bitter self-abasement and mistakes, evolved the complete woman—a woman not purely intellectual nor social, nor yet purely domestic, but still all of these and more—a loving, true-hearted, broad-minded woman. Such is the Helen Middleton of the present.

### "WE NEVER SPEAK AS WE PASS BY."

Some people do not seem aware that the rules laid down for etiquette are secure and steadfast, and have been for generations, and that one can not act "fancy free" in this matter. For instance, a lady recognizes a man or not as she chooses. If she recognizes him he must acknowledge it, else commit the greatest breach of etiquette.

If people who have differences meet and pass without recognition it is a sure indication that they belong to the lower classes. When a woman going through this world does something to displease people, the next time she meets them, wives, sisters and brothers hold their heads high in passing, without recognition, thereby betraying their ill-breeding in the most pitiable manner. The woman of the world regrets, however, that there are people so sadly ignorant of the common etiquette of the twentieth century. —[Exchange.]

South Carolina clubwomen through their State Federation have awarded sixteen scholarships in various educational institutions of their state, ranging from kindergarten training schools to colleges.

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References: — Noah Brooks, Mrs. Deland, Mrs. Burton Harrison, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, W. D. Howells, Mrs. Moulton, Mary E. Wilkins, Helen M. Winslow and others. Send stamp for BOOKLET to

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## FEDERATION MEETINGS.

This is the great month for conventions. The New Hampshire Federation meet September 22-24, at the Profile House, Franconia Notch; Vermont club women convene at Waterbury, October 1 and 2; Maine clubs report at Lewiston, October 8-10; the Minnesota Federation meets at Albert Lea, October 14-16; Illinois convenes at Champaign, October 15 to 17; Nebraska, October 7-9, at Columbus; Ohio, October 22-24, at Toledo; Utah, October 28, at Ogden; Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Oklahoma and Indian Territories also have Federation meetings in October. Texas, New York, Missouri, Georgia and Louisiana Federations hold their annual meetings in November, making twenty-one states that hold conventions within the two months.

## BOOK TALK

(Continued.)

Thousands of nature-lovers have been made glad by Thoreau's "Walden" since its first appearance in 1854, and none of the numerous nature-books since published have excelled it. A more genuine lover of nature than Henry D. Thoreau never lived, and he had the art of saying in a few simple words something that could start a whole train, or express what thousands feel but none can say as well. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., of Boston, have recently brought "Walden" out in a beautiful holiday edition, illustrated with photogravures and with a most sympathetic introduction by Bradford Torrey—another nature-lover with a facile pen. As Mr. Torrey points out, "'Walden' is a book for those who love books, for those who love nature, for those who love courageous thinking, courageous acting, and all manly, sturdy virtues." It deals primarily with a "question of personal economy: How to live so, as not to waste one's life in trying to save it." Do not think you have read nature books until you have read "Walden." The present edition will make a really valuable gift-book. (Price, \$3.00.)

The same firm, Houghton, Mifflin & Co. (price, \$1.10) have added "Hawthorne" to their "American Men of Letters Series." This volume is written by Professor George E. Woodberry of Columbia College, who has produced a biography which is sure to take a permanent place as biography and as literature. Like other books in the "American Men of Letters Series" to which it belongs, the "Life of Hawthorne" deals primarily with Hawthorne as a writer, and it is marked by the critical skill and acumen which have made Professor Woodberry's "Life of Poe" in the same series an invaluable book.

One of the daintiest books of the season is Onoto Watanna's "The Wooing of Wistaria." There is a beautiful portrait in color of this Japanese author for a frontispiece, with no other illustrations except the charming head and tail pieces to each chapter and the framing to each page, all done daintily in pen and ink. A cluster of wistaria in color appears on the green cover, and it is all Japanese and oriental in effect. It is a love story of Japan, but it differs from almost all the other stories of this land in that all the characters are Japanese and the background is one of genuine Japanese history. Readers of "A Japanese Nightingale" will find an even more delightful story in this second book by Miss Watanna.

Henry Seton Merriman has a large following, and when he writes a new story there are many to welcome it. "The Vultures" is the not very attractive title of his latest novel, which is a story of intrigue, conspiracy and exciting adventure among the political factions of the great European nations. One of the scenes is in Russia at the time of the assassination of the Czar. The attachés of the various foreign offices play an important part. It is full of exciting, dramatic situations, most of which center around the

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love interest of the story—the love of a young English diplomatist for the beautiful Countess Wanda of Warsaw. It is well worth reading for the pictures it gives of Russian life and Russian people. (Harper Bros. Price, \$1.50.)

Ruth Hall wrote a charming book a year or two ago in "The Black Gown," and now she has given us a still better in "The Downreiter's Son." It deals with a little known eddy in the stream of New York history—the strange attempt to abolish rents about sixty years ago. The political struggle involved is presented through the medium of a few striking characters, whose dialogue is very well managed. There are two scenes of marked dramatic power—one where a man is about to be tarred and feathered, and another in which "Old Hagar" defies the officers of the law. While not a juvenile book, the story is of equal interest to both older and younger readers. Like all the books from Houghton, Mifflin & Co.'s, it is very handsomely made up. Price, \$1.50.

Mrs. J. G. Lemmon, of California, is a well-known club woman, and chairman of the forestry committee of the California Federation. Now she has collaborated with her husband and they have brought out a little booklet, "How to Tell the Trees," which should be in the hands of every good club woman. Mr. Lemmon, who has written several books on forestry, wrote most of this one, while Mrs. Lemmon gave valuable suggestions and hints. The book is 50 cents and can be had of Mrs. J. G. Lemmon, 5985 Telegraph avenue, Oakland, Cal.

A certain type of woman, not necessarily young, hangs breathlessly on every word written by Lilian Bell. Just why she is so popular I have not been able to explain satisfactorily to myself, any more than I know why "The Ladies' Home Journal" finds so

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PHEBE SWAN - - - Librarian

many women willing to swell its circulation up to nearly a million. But anyhow, those who dote on Lilian Bell will be delighted with the very handsome "Lilian Bell Birthday Book" which L. C. Page & Co., of Boston, have just brought out. A picture of Miss Bell enframed in gold adorns the green cover, and inside are quotations from her writings for every day in the year. The publishers have done their prettiest, and the book will be an acceptable gift book to many women.

A breezy, straightforward story of the West by Elizabeth Higgins is "Out of the West" which the Harpers have just brought out. The scenes are laid in Nebraska and in Washington city. The plot of the story is rather simple. A New York merchant has a son, Frank Field, who seems to amount to very little in the city, so he is sent out to take charge of a grain elevator at Columbia Junction, Neb., a town which is described on the first page of the story as "the deadest town between Omaha and Ogden," and which seems to deserve the description. Field is at first amused by the town, but soon loses his interest and becomes soured and depressed. Then come the drought, the failure of crops and the birth of that twin of calamity, the Populist party. Preaching populism comes to Columbia Junction a young woman from Colorado whose brother had been killed by the militia called out to protect the property of the railroad against the strikers. She is called the Colorado Joan of Arc, and the impression which she makes on Field is strong. He follows her to other towns and becomes interested in her mission. Meantime, the town becomes a veritable house of misery and the country destitute of life or joy. Field at length gives up his position, becomes a Populist and weds the Joan of Arc. He is sent to the Legislature by the Populists and at length to Congress. There he is submitted to many temptations and almost falls, but is saved by his wife's character, and the story closes with the passage by Congress of his anti-railroad bill. It is a strongly-written book and one that will not be easily forgotten. Who is Elizabeth Higgins? Daughter of a Nebraska judge of whom great things are predicted in a literary way.

"The great American Eagle is a hen bird. She was in fact the fore-flyer of the new woman and she is the most ultimate representation of the 'eternal feminine.' She is a wise old sister, and has hood-winked the makers of a nation, which is a most feminine failing.

"All hail to the great American Eagle!  
The great American Eagle, all hail!  
The American eagle, that none can inveigle  
By putting of salt on her venerable tail."

—Mrs. Hanger.

The July, 1902, number of the "Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science" contains valuable papers on the Child Labor Troubles and on the Tendencies of Factory Legislation and Inspection.

By special arrangement with the Civil Service Reform Committee of the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs, this part of the pamphlet may be obtained for 50 cents by addressing American Academy of Political and Social Science, West Philadelphia Station, Philadelphia, Pa.

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## WOMEN'S CLUBS IN THE COUNTRY.



ARE they to be or not to be? says "R. R. L." in the Burlington "Hawkeye." This is the question which is beginning to agitate the minds of mothers and daughters in rural districts. Women's clubs in cities have long since run the gauntlet of public criticism and established for themselves a place in social life which will never be eradicated. The pessimist saw in them the source of much evil. The home life was to be undermined, mother love and watchfulness lessened and household duties and responsibilities left to servants or remain abandoned. Such predictions have not been fulfilled. All great moves have met opposition in proportion to their merit. So long as our women meet to discuss methods and modes by which they can better serve their families, discuss and study child nature and mind training, the traps that are set for the feet of their little ones as they pass beyond the threshold of home to enter school life, also the pitifuls that have a tendency to drag down the children older grown, certainly nothing but good can result from such mothers' meetings. Where the object of meeting is of a literary character and mothers and daughters meet together to train their minds to a higher plane of thought and grasp higher and nobler aspirations for life by the reading and discussion of good books, thus fitting themselves to be companions and counselors for the fathers and brothers the purpose and result is surely commendable. Many women's clubs are organized to give aid in the culinary and household arts, and prove of untold worth to the younger wives and prospective wives especially, as they glean from older, more experienced minds the results of years of trials along these lines, and the older ones to find much to learn from each other and the inspiration of great zeal of the younger women. We might add columns telling of the different objects, all more or less commendable, which women's clubs in cities reach out and endeavor to lift. These clubs have now reached our towns and villages and seem to fill a long-felt want. They aim to instruct, and a wiser wife or daughter usually means a better more useful one. As women have slowly brought themselves up from the low social educational standard they once held to the new woman of today, fully developed and alive to all the interests and possibilities which surround her, we find home life improving in direct ratio. She is better prepared to serve as companion and adviser to her husband, the beautifier of his home and more proficient in culinary skill that she may provide healthful, nourishing food for the maintenance of the physical body as well as having her mind developed that she may select and place before her family mental food which will serve its like purpose. Scarcely can you find a woman's club organized without its attaining to one or more of these objects. Rare instances may be found where women have allowed club life to seriously interfere with home duty, but where one such case exists a thousand might be pointed out where a better condition exists because of the helpful thoughts and suggestions received in the exchange of ideas at these meeting places.

If all this may be said unchallenged for women's clubs in cities and villages, then why not a move be made to bring this

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good influence to bear upon the lives of farmer's wives and daughters?

The wide channel which once divided the farmer's family from the city-bred gentry is swiftly narrowing. The backwoods dialect, customs and dress is fast disappearing from among the rising generations. Educational advantages of the present over former times, together with better financial surroundings, largely account for this change. Few are the country boys and girls now who do not add to their country school education the advantage of a few terms at least at some academy, high school or business college. Our colleges and universities turn out among their graduates a very large per cent of country-bred young men and women. Musical instruction for our country girls is almost as universally found as in cities, and the vocal instruction has now been established as a subject necessary to be taught in our schools daily.

The country schools are largely supplied with teachers from the ranks of farmers' daughters, and this is as it should be. Summer schools and normal institutes are held for their benefit and that of teachers in general in every city, and as town and country girls mingle together in these schools the comparison is not unfavorable to the latter class—judge them for what you may.

The improved rural mail facilities are another cause for the closer intimacy that has come between city and country, and the rural telephone which now enters the home of almost every farmer has wrought great things in the social life of the country people, the women more than the men using it for this purpose. Now with all these advanced means of women in the country coming in closer contact with each other, with educated, progressive minds dominating and filling these homes, and considering that a horse and buggy awaits almost all their disposal why should they not fall into line with the advanced womanhood of our country and organize clubs to meet their needs, social, intellectual and practical and thus enjoy the privileges and advantages which belong to them?

It would be best to organize with a variety of purpose or objects of improvement in view and thus interest and draw all the varied tastes of the community together old and young. The older heads will speak words of wisdom borne from experience to the daughters while new ideas and plans of entertainment will spring from more youthful minds to the advantages of all. To delve deep into the study of literature might prove a drawing card to some. A club wholly devoted to the culinary and housewifely arts might interest more. The anxious young mother would be more interested in learning to care for the babe in her arms and the little ones just ready to leave her watchful care for the duties of school where they go to mingle with children from all classes of homes. Physical culture instruction and practices would suit the older school girls who are soon to enter a city school and mingle with the graceful forms of the girls who have enjoyed such instructions since their kindergarten days. An occasional literary program would meet the wishes of all perhaps. Some would wish to have it largely musical, while others would choose it to be declamatory or filled with book reviews and essays.

Fancy work and household adornment would find its advocates as a proper theme and work; while a strictly reading circle club might seem profitable to others, especially since our free traveling libraries have placed in our rural homes a pleasure and advantage which word cannot portray or money estimate.

Our city sister may hunt among the numerous clubs in reach of her and suit her taste. If she has a diversity of taste she may join a number of clubs each pandering to one special object. Not so in the rural community. One club must meet these varied tastes of the different members. This is why the by-laws must be drawn to admit of great laxity and variation of purposes. As time goes on and the different minds become, in a degree, assimilated these objects may be better classified and gotten at. All tastes should

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be looked after until a firm hold is gotten and then divide and classify and give special seasons to the different groups. In the country a meeting of the club one afternoon in two weeks would be a safe start, and the serving of light refreshments, two and two going together to prepare them, would be a wise and pleasant custom. The simplicity of such refreshments should be carefully enforced, or much harm will result from the effort. The by-laws should regulate this as far as possible. Where only an occasional "spread" is served all can join forces and something more elaborate be given. If an occasional evening meeting be arranged and a program and menu prepared to suit the tastes of the men folks, it will result in their more hearty co-operation in planning ways and means by which the women folks can more easily attend these meetings in busy seasons.

I believe the time is approaching when country women's clubs

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and societies will be as popular and as common as the advent of telephone, daily papers, public library and the piles of good periodicals have become; the latter are but forerunners of the former, and when it comes another link will be forged in the chain which binds the farmer to his beautiful country home, there surrounded by the associates and associations of a life time to end his days instead of severing these and pining away amid changed conditions and enforced idleness his declining years in the near-by towns. His children will settle about him, for why should they flock to the cities when country life offers so many of the pleasures there to be obtained and fewer of the worries and hamperings? Cities will never become depopulated for the allurements and fascinations of country life, but since farming must occupy so large a per cent of our population why not adopt all means possible, women's clubs included, to elevate our minds and bring out the social side of our nature as we move along.

R. R. L.

### THE IDEAL LITERARY CLUB.



CORRESPONDENT asks of the Indianapolis "News," "What are the requisites of an ideal literary club?" The editor answers: The question is timely—though who would be vain enough to feel that he could answer it definitively?—for the club season is about to open, finding some women armed with papers indefatigably prepared through a strenuous vacation, and many more with "library headaches," acquired in a desperate search for information needed by a certain fast-nearing and all-important date. We say "women" for women make up the majority of our literary clubs, and then women take club life more serious than men do. A man would, indeed, hardly frame, even in his own mind, the definite question which our correspondent sends. It discloses a sense of importance in club life, which men, even those that are loyal members of long established clubs, rarely feel.

And club life is important. Some phases of it, as exhibited by over-zealous women, occasion a considerable amount of gentle badinage, but this need never really annoy the cooler-brained members. The benefits which are to be derived from membership in even a good literary club, to say nothing of the ideal one which our correspondent would seek, are so undeniable, so numerous and so delightful, that no amount of fun-poking will distress those that have experienced them.

"What are the requisites of an ideal literary club?" We wish we knew. But even if we did, and if the world did, there would not, perhaps, be many ideal clubs in actual operation within the week or the month. For Portia's plaint—"If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches and poor men's cottages princes' palaces"—has ever stood in mankind's way 'twixt will and deed. But effort approaches. And a consideration of what the ideal literary club would be is certainly a help toward making that effort in the right direction.

We are sure, for one thing, that in the ideal literary club the members do not belong to many other clubs. If they do, they will be nervous and hurried, their papers will be mere strings of facts ferreted out of library tomes by patient reference clerks. In the ideal club the members think for themselves, and real thinking takes time. And the women of many clubs can not possibly feel for any one of them that affection that should be the very life of

the ideal club. We are sure, too, that in this club the members would vote most conscientiously on the new names offered to them, and that they would blackball, never from purely personal motives but only from conviction that the proposed members would not be really clubable.

And in making out the yearly program we think the ideal club would avoid such subjects as "Women: Past, Present and Future," and would instead find something a little fresher and a trifle less ambitious for their consideration. And we think that every year, at least, they would not hold themselves too strictly to the remoter and more difficult topics. The club's purpose would be high and serious, and yet there would be meetings which would permit straying off into pleasant byways. The members would not, for example, think it necessary to learn the names of all of the personages mentioned in "The Blessed Damozell," as Bliss Perry says. They would remember that the club exists for them, not they for the club. And they would never try to make culture hum. Instead, they would just let it come as it would, naturally and insensibly.

The question asked by our correspondent can not be answered in set terms. The best answer that could be made to it, we believe, would be found in the actual work of our best literary clubs, whose standard is, we think, gratifyingly high. These clubs, especially those in the smaller towns and villages, have stimulated the intellectual life of their members to a remarkable degree, and what is of still more value, they have refined the social atmosphere of entire communities. If, then, the realization of the ideal club is not to be hoped for immediately, we may take consolation from the really excellent work that is being done all over the state in the many imperfect but high-purposed clubs that already exist.

### A FLOURISHING ORGANIZATION.



THE report of the treasurer of the Chicago Woman's Club for the last fiscal year shows that organization to be in a flourishing condition. Its receipts from all sources, including \$2950.85 cash on hand, were \$18,256.56. Its disbursements for all purposes were \$13,437.37, leaving a cash balance of \$4819.19. Its assets, including \$6600 in bonds and \$9050.81 in furniture, pictures and books, are \$20,470. Its liabilities, including advance dues and donations for special purposes, are but \$2,504.31, leaving a net surplus in cash and property of \$17,965.69.

In many ways the report is a model of clear financial statement and a standing refutation of the hoary-headed jests at feminine book-keeping. It shows sources of revenue and objects of expenditure with all necessary clearness, except, perhaps, at one point. As the club is a semi-public institution, it may not be out of order to suggest that members not able to attend meetings with regularity might like to know for just what purposes the \$1848.50, entered as "department disbursements," was expended.

It appears that \$11,538.87 was expended for rent, salaries printing, stationery, furniture, books and pictures for the clubhouse, taxes, social purposes and other necessary provisions for the maintenance of the organization and the comfort and convenience of its members. The only items not entirely clear are "contributions, \$50," which presumably means "charity," and "department disbursements, \$1848.50."

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Turning to the club announcement for the same year, we find that its "departments" or "sections" of work are "art and literature" (including music), "philosophy and science," "reform," "home," "education," and "philanthropy." We also find from its charter that its objects are "mutual sympathy and counsel, a united effort toward the higher civilization of humanity, and general philanthropic and literary work."

From the data at hand it would therefore appear that \$11,538.87 was expended in promoting the object of "mutual sympathy and counsel," with such incidental promotion of "the higher civilization" as might result from the social intercourse of the members, and \$1,848.50 was expended upon "philanthropic and literary work." But to what extent the activities represented by \$1,848.50 were altruistic and to what extent personally beneficial to the members the report furnishes no direct means of estimating.

The schedule of "liabilities" may throw some light upon this point. It appears that the "art and literature department" was sufficiently active to run \$521.20 over the appropriation, and that "philosophy and science" ran over \$57.63. On the other hand, the liabilities of other departments are: "Education, \$138.89;" "Home, \$10.14;" "Philanthropy, \$4.15," and "Reform, \$2."

From these data it may be inferred that the Chicago Woman's Club is not using its money for the benefit of those who do not contribute to its income.

The Illinois State Federation of Women's Clubs will hold its annual meeting on October 14-17 at the twin cities of Champaign and Urbana. The meeting will have at least two features to distinguish it from previous state conventions. They are both due to the fact that the meeting is to be held in a college town, where university buildings are available for the meetings of the society.

A sort of "club commons" is to be instituted. Instead of being entertained entirely by their hostesses the delegates will lunch

and dine all together in the spacious hall of the university armory.

The advantages of the new plan are at once apparent. In the informal intercourse of informal dining delegates will become far better acquainted with each other than they would at any number of business meetings or formal entertainments. Furthermore, the hostesses are to such an extent relieved of the burden of entertaining that they may themselves attend all Federation meetings.

It is said that one of the reasons why many of those interested in the state university were desirous of having the State Federation meet at Champaign and Urbana was for the purpose of demonstrating to the state at large how great is the university's need of a dormitory for women. Whatever the reason for the choice it was evidently a wise one in many ways. All the meetings are to be held on the campus, the larger convention meetings in the university hall, while the smaller committees will meet in the library building. In many other ways the Federation is brought more closely into touch with the university.

"There is nothing that I like better than to hear the tales told by the old settlers and early timers of Chicago," said Jane Addams recently in addressing the Hull House Woman's Club.

"As a rule, the old folks are forgotten," she continued. "In the bustle and worry of the present day we are apt to be selfish and think only of ourselves."

She cited an instance of lost opportunity which the pioneers of Chicago are fond of telling. It was a tale told by her father.

"In the early part of 1844 my father first came to the vicinity of Chicago," she said. "He was driving a prairie schooner, and when he was at the site of the post office his wagon became mired. Instead of staying mired, he managed to pull through and traveled past Chicago over 150 miles. If he had staid mired and located in Chicago he says he would be in much better circumstances than he is at present."

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By EMMA A. FOX

Second Vice-President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

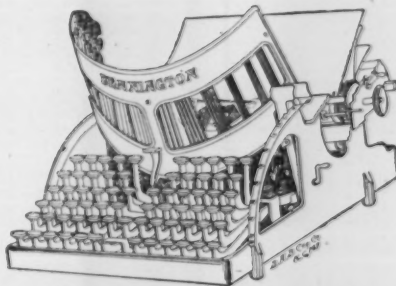
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